

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

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DECEMBER 1, 2005

Campus Security announces new changes

Allied-Barton to replace Silver Star as provider of security guards by January

BY JAMES LEE
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Allied-Barton Security Services will replace Broadway Services Inc. Silver Star Security as the security company for the Homewood campus beginning Jan. 1.

According to Edmund Skrodzki, executive director of Campus Safety and Security, Hopkins had no existing contract with Silver Star, but rather their employment was a short-term part of the response to concerns following Linda Trinh's murder last January.

Skrodzki also said the cost of changing to Allied-Barton will not exceed what the University currently spends on Silver Star

Security. The cost for the new guards will come from the Security Department's general operating budget.

This change comes after Security's July request for contract proposals from security services companies. Several companies were said to have responded, including Silver Star. A review process including company presentations, reference checks and on-site evaluations led to the choice of Allied-Barton as the new contracting company for Homewood's security.

Silver Star was deployed without a permanent contract at Homewood in order to provide immediate patrols, replacing Hopkins-employed security guards.

Skrodzki maintained that there were no

major problems with Silver Star's service at Hopkins.

He described Allied-Barton as "uniquely qualified" to work for the University because of over 25 years' experience in college settings, as well as its specialized training programs in campus patrol, driver safety, residential living firesafety, service in a residential life facility, CPR/first aid, certified bike patrol training and nonviolent crisis intervention.

Allied-Barton spokesman Larry Rubin added that the company's security guards are specifically trained to be "outgoing" and "helpful."

With its employment at over 70 universities around the country — including

CONTINUED ON PAGE A2

Careers for grads on the rise

BY SAL GENTILE
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Hopkins graduates can expect increased competition from employers and an overall friendlier job market, according to the Career Center and a recent study released by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE).

The report, a compilation of responses from employers nationwide to NACE's *Job Outlook 2006* survey, cites a 14.5 percent increase in intended employment of college graduates for the 2005-2006 job cycle. The bulk of that augmentation will come in industries such as business, engineering and computer-related fields, according to the study.

Dawna Milligan, associate director of the Career Center, agrees that there has been a visible increase in interest from employers at Hopkins and, in return, a growing response from students going directly into industry after graduation. "We have definitely seen an increase in traffic through on-campus recruiting through both the employer side and the student side," she said.

She cited as evidence for the trend an

CONTINUED ON PAGE A3

Hopkins celebrates first-ever Lighting of the Quads



MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

The senior class delegation of StuCo hosted the Lighting of the Quads Monday night, brightening the campus' many light poles.

Journalist discusses poverty in America

BY PATRICE HUTTON
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Pulitzer Prize-winning author and journalist David Shipler spoke on his book *The Working Poor: Invisible in America* as part of the Johns Hopkins Institute for Policy Studies' Press and Public Policy Seminar Series on Monday.

Hoping to dispel the stigma that those who categorically fall below the government-defined poverty line reached the status as a result of intentional unemployment, Shipler discussed stories of

individuals who have been unable to rise out of poverty despite working one or multiple jobs.

"There's the man who washes cars but does not own one, the assistant teacher who cannot afford to put her own two children in daycare," Shipler said.

"The fruits of their labors are in our lives every day, but we do not see them as whole people when we see them stocking the shelves at Wal-Mart," he added. "The folks are hidden in plain sight."

Shipler began his lecture by describing a metaphor which he believed was most constructive view of dealing with poverty: a series of dots needing connection in order to produce a broader picture that can be dealt with.

He said that the causes of poverty appear to be "random, disjointed, seem far from each other, but have to be connected to understand each other."

"Poverty is not a culture. I think that's the wrong term, not a series of morals, values, but is more like an ecological system of relationships," he said.

"The federal government defines poverty very simply. ... If you earn a dollar more, you were not [categorized as impoverished]," Shipler said.

Shipler explained that although an impoverished condition cannot be defined by income alone, it is the only classification that the government uses.

"Poverty is also debt, because debt is part of the past that is carried into the present, sapping [people] of choices. Poverty is powerlessness," Shipler said.

Shipler discussed how the "myth" of the American dream has convinced society that anybody who is able to work hard can prosper. He noted that this misconception has created a judgmental side of society, which is used to condemn those who do not prosper.

Shipler noted that the notion of poverty

is often misconstrued through similarly singular blame that both liberals and conservatives tend to place on societal institutions.

He explained that the traditional liberal view of poverty blames a fault of society; the conservative view blames a failure of the individual.

"In a perfect world, liberals who see society at fault and conservatives who see families at fault would assemble pieces of a jigsaw puzzle and see the full picture," Shipler said.

"It's the latter group I tend to see as hopeful, and I'm a liberal. They see the side that many liberal Democrats tend to miss."

Shipler said that as a journalist, he doesn't feel that he's in a place to make policy prescriptions.

However, he said that he ended his book with a discussion of the disparity between society's skill and will to assist in combating poverty.

"There's a lot more generosity in this society than we give ourselves credit for. As I was working on this book, I kept running into powerful currents of generosity all over the place," he said.

However, Shipler expressed a need for part of this generosity to be channeled through the government.

"The government is a powerful machine for mobilizing. How many of you would be willing to pay higher taxes to help address the issue of poverty?" Shipler asked.

Shipler concluded his speech with a hope that society would see the present condition of poverty as a dire situation that can only be remedied through the correct societal perception and resulting action.

"I look at this as an emergency for the United States ... to understand that investing in public education, vocational education, are worth paying higher taxes for, or

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MATT HANSEN/NEWS-LETTER

Hopkins will add 46 additional Closed Circuit TV cameras around campus.

University makes major additions to surveillance

BY AMANDA DIOS
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

In a University-wide e-mail broadcast on Sunday, Nov. 27, President Brody announced the most recent security initiatives being undertaken by the administration, marking the beginning of Phase 2 of the University's Security Action Plan.

In response to concerns regarding campus safety, the University has not only begun the implementation of already scheduled initiatives but has also proscribed additional measures to supplement the second phase of Brody's plan. These supplemental measures include the added installation of 46 Closed Circuit TV (CCTV) security cameras throughout the campus, connected via the Smart CCTV system network, by next spring.

The system, which makes use of special behavioral recognition software capable of detecting suspicious behavior and sending a direct notification to the security department, will be monitored temporarily in a security center to be located in the Facilities Management Building at 3001 Remington Ave.

According to Edmund Skrodzki, executive director of Campus Safety and Security, the technology is intended to alert the security department so that it can better and more quickly respond to potentially dangerous situations. "This proactive response," he explained, "can potentially make the critical difference in preventing a possible incident versus reacting to a reported crime."

He added, "The Smart CCTV system provides an additional set of eyes in a proactive approach to deter crime."

In addition to the installation of an extended network of cameras across the campus, the administration has, according to the announcement, further provided for the construction of what Skrodzki referred to as a "high-tech, state-of-the-art" Homewood Security Communication Center, which the University hopes will both consolidate the security dispatch center and provide a central location for monitoring the extensive security camera network.

Skrodzki explained that the measures are an accommodation of President Brody's previously established security response plan, which has now entered its second phase.

"In continuation of President Brody's Security Action Plan ... [he] and the deans committed over \$1.9 million to fund the additional Smart CCTV Cameras."

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INSIDE



The last days of fall season

Miss the mild days of autumn? Take a stroll through some lush, vibrant countryside with this collection of images — but mind the child in the corn. PHOTO ESSAY B12

Diversity

Find out what cultural groups are active on campus, admissions standards for diversity and the faculty gender ratio. FOCUS B2

W. B'ball wins

The Lady Jays conquered the court at the Blue Jay Invitational, but fell short against national powerhouse Scranton. SPORTS A12

Josh Kelley

The up-and-coming crooner recently brought his folksy tunes to Shriver Hall. Find out if his performance won over any new fans. ARTS B2

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MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

Shipler, who spoke on Monday, hopes to raise awareness of the American poor.

NEWS

Security switches to new company

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Harvard University, the University of Pennsylvania and Georgetown University—Allied-Barton is cited in industry profiles as specializing in campus security among its other services.

"University campuses create unique challenges to any security or public safety provider. ... [Allied-Barton's] experience and specialized training sets them apart from other security service companies," Skrodzki said.

He also noted Allied-Barton's professionalism and helpfulness during his various unannounced visits to campuses employing the company. "They're very professional. We not only need to provide security, but also a professional demeanor," he said.

However, despite the uniqueness of a campus setting, not all agree that it is a more challenging task requiring additional training. Silver Star Security Officer Tamika Harris believes working in a university setting has been "easier" than her previous corporate assignments. "It's just pa-

tience. The students are very easy to deal with. They're friendlier, they're more cooperative. They listen, they're more polite," she said.

The 250 Silver Star employees currently on Hopkins assignments will remain with Silver Star, with different assignments after the transition.

"I would have loved to stay. ... I liked the students, the campus. I really liked my job a lot," said Harris.

Harris said she hopes to be reassigned to work at the Hopkins Hospital after December.

Students have also expressed some concern upon hearing of the change. Sophomore Jamie Rosenow said, "I would rather the school extend Silver Star's contract than hire an entirely new company. It helps that the current guards know me and my friends, because there is both protection and convenience."

Freshman Alassane Soumare agreed: "I think it's a bad idea because the security guards that are here know the students, and who better to stop intruders than people who know who lives here. They're very friendly."



MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER
Sophomore Kris Cortez retrieves his J-Card from guard Sheila Johnson; however, by next year an Allied-Barton employee will fill her space.

Although Allied-Barton's campus services are highly rated, experiences at many peer institutions also paint an alarming record of the company's treatment of its employees.

In a recent episode at the University of Pennsylvania, five Allied-Barton guards were suspended and put on punishment assignments after petitioning university President Amy Gutmann for higher pay.

The guards were later reinstated upon the university's demands.

In a letter to the editor printed in

The Daily Pennsylvanian, an Allied-Barton employee at the school wrote, "Security officers at UPenn repeatedly come and go and receive little training on how to do their jobs. Because our wages are so low, all of us have had a hard time supporting our families and have to work second jobs."

In some cases, the Allied-Barton guards were paid as little as \$8 per hour, a wage below Philadelphia's poverty line of \$9.28 hourly rate for a family of four.

At Georgetown University, Allied-Barton guards had a base pay of \$9.77 per hour, well below Georgetown's mandated pay of \$13 per hour for contracted workers' salary, even with benefits included.

Allied-Barton, the largest American owned security service company, grossed over \$850 million in 2004 sales and employs over 37,000 people for more than 100 Fortune 500 companies.

The company's treatment of its employees has incited student petitions, protests and hunger strikes at several universities.

At some universities, such as Harvard and Georgetown, mandated wage floors guarantee reasonable pay even for subcontracted workers. In the case of Harvard, the university compensates for the shortfall between outsource company wages and the university wage floor.

Hopkins has no such wage floors for its outsourced services. Skrodzki declined to comment on the specific wages Hopkins will pay Allied-Barton.

City crime has little effect on admissions

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

crimes committed since the start of this fall term, including one murder and one rape. This equates roughly to 29 crimes being committed bi-weekly in the neighborhood surrounding Hopkins.

According to Capt. George Kibler of Hopkins Safety and Security, the statistics simply highlight the University's location in an urban environment. The responsibilities involved with campus safety and security, he says, lie largely with the student population itself.

"Students should be aware of their surroundings and stay informed of what they can do to help protect themselves from becoming a victim," he said. "This basic understanding is important for any student and will help guide them to a safe and enjoyable experience."

Most students are more than conscious of the community surrounding the University and the dangers associated with it, yet many are quick to note the difference between safety and security on campus and those of its surrounding area.

Senior Rob Huang said, "Considering the city we live in, Hopkins has done a lot in the past few years to make campus safer. Baltimore may be dangerous, but Hopkins is not."

Freshman Lindsay Tague agreed, "As long as you use your head, nothing will happen to you around campus. It's all about common sense, walking with others and staying alert."

But despite the numerous precautions taken by Campus Security and students alike, Baltimore's crime rate can still exact a toll on the University and its student community. Many prospective students say they aren't receptive to the idea of living in an environment ranked among the most dangerous in the country.

Prospective student Morgan Ryan and her father, Peter Ryan,

both agreed that "security concerns play a major role in the college application process." Peter Ryan added, "I don't like the idea of Baltimore City being her home for four years."

Director of Undergraduate Admissions Dr. John F. Latting said, "It often surprises me that what would seem to be such a logical concern is not one that is greatly expressed by parents of prospective students. They are more concerned with academic reputation and student lifestyles."

Echoing this sentiment, prospective student Laura LaPerche said, "Driving into the Hopkins area was a bit intimidating, but it's such a good school that I don't think it would really matter to me in the long run."

Latting observed, "People realize that in big cities like Baltimore, crime occurs. What they are more concerned with isn't the amount of crime, but rather how it is managed."

However, according to the statistics, Hopkins is still at a disadvantage over most of its peer institutions. Cities such as New Haven, New York, Boston and Philadelphia—all among the populous college towns in the nation—have remained off the list of the 30 most dangerous cities in America. Over the past decade, the only American city to consistently receive as poor a crime rating as Baltimore, according to the Morgan Quitno Group, is Detroit.

Latting admits, "I have experienced some cases where security was extremely important to the prospective family. It's easy to inquire within the applicant pool about safety concerns, which are usually minimal. However, safety concerns can dissuade potential applicants very early in the admissions process, which is a deterrent to Hopkins."

ERRATA

In the Nov. 17 issue in an article about federal aid cuts, Sen. Barbara Mikulski was quoted as commenting on the Budget Reconciliation Bill. Her remarks, however, referred to the Higher Education Act.

Cameras to be added on campus

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

He added, "Included in this \$1.9 million funding is the construction of ... the Homewood Security Communication Center."

When asked where the funding for these additional measures would come from, Skrodzki maintained that the already existing \$1.9 million added to the operating budget for President Brody's Security Action Plan would supply the required funds.

Despite the extensive changes being made, students aren't completely convinced that the installation of cameras will amount to a substantial improvement in the security department's ability to monitor dangerous or suspicious situations on campus.

Freshman Anialac Zavala commented, "Anything can be a suspi-

cious act. If a crowd of friends forms, is that a suspicious act too? No camera is able to differentiate between these things."

Fuad Muakkssa, also a freshman, echoed Zavala's concerns. "A camera can never be that smart. How does the camera know what a suspicious behavior is?" Muakkssa is also worried about the privacy of Hopkins students once the additional cameras are installed. "Students should know where the cameras are," he said. "I feel like the cameras could be invasive to the privacy of the students."

Although the additional initiatives are extensive, other already existing security measures will remain the same. For example, according to Skrodzki, campus security will continue to maintain communication with the Baltimore Police Department

to ensure continued patrols around the Charles Village Community, where the bulk of potentially dangerous situations involving students may occur.

"Campus Safety and Security has vehicle patrols, bike patrols and foot patrols that cover the areas of Charles Village, south of campus to 27th Street, east to Guilford Avenue, north of University Parkway and west to Tudor Arms Ave.," Skrodzki explained.

He added, "Off-duty Baltimore Police officers provide foot patrol coverage in the Charles Street, Charles Village and University Parkway areas."

President Brody announced the establishment of the Security Action Plan in January, the first phase of which has now been completed, according to University officials.

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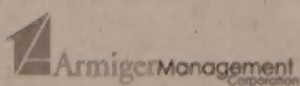
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Career Center sees job growth

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1
almost 100 percent increase from last year in on-campus presentations from potential employers and corporate entities.

"We have more company presentations this fall than we did all of last year ... so, basically two semesters worth of presentations in one semester."

The increasingly noticeable corporate presence on the Hopkins campus this fall is in line with a broader, national trend toward increased employer activity and recruiting on college campuses.

According to the NACE report, more than half the employers surveyed, 53.7 percent, responded that they had "firm plans" to be on campus in spring 2006, an increase of over 10 percent from last year's 42.2 percent.

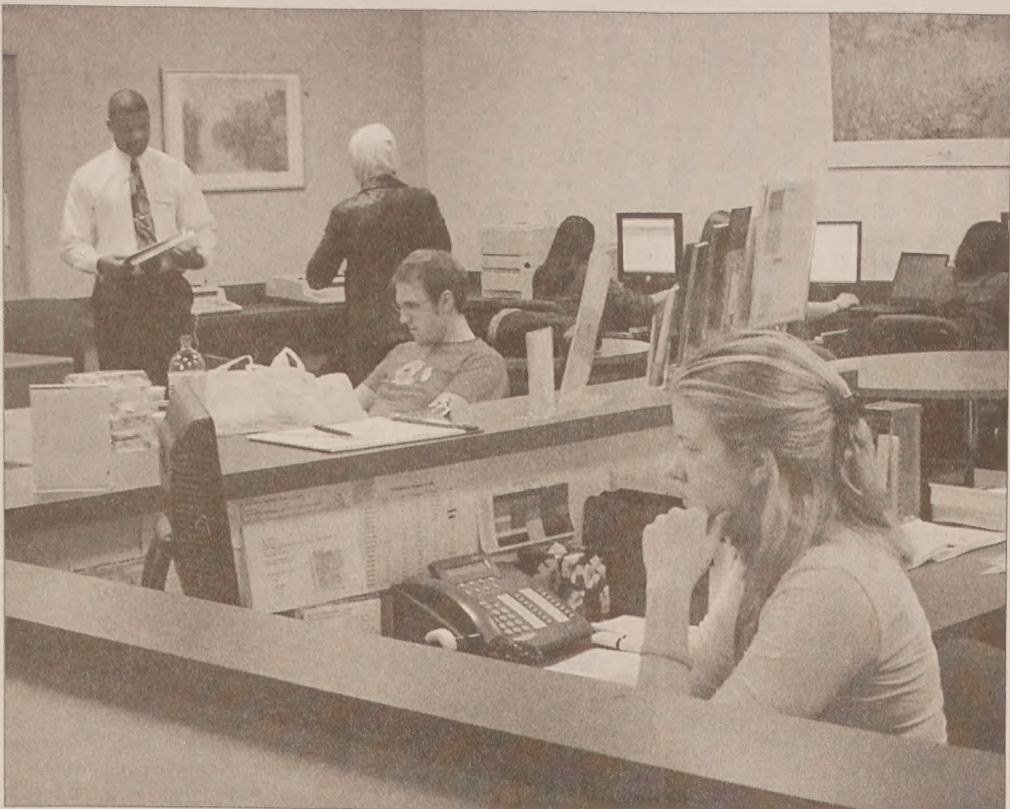
According to Milligan, the increased competition has also led to a noticeable increase in starting salaries offered by potential hirers to recent college graduates.

"I've seen more students coming in traffic-wise," she said, "and meeting with me about evaluating offers and salary negotiations and taking more time to research the NACE salary surveys that we get in."

The most recent report released by NACE states that there is an overall, nationwide increase of about 3.7 percent in the average starting salary being offered by potential employers to recent college graduates with bachelor's degrees.

That number increases even further, to four percent, for graduates with masters degrees.

Milligan cited an increased volume of employers seeking information concerning such salary trends



Career Center staff faced increased student traffic this year as companies hired more college graduates.

for Hopkins students as evidence that the industry has recently become much more competitive and college graduate-friendly. She added that increasingly, "employers [have been] contacting us and inquiring about salary trends so that they can be competitive."

According to the most recent statistics available from the Career Center, the average starting salary for a 2004 graduate working full-time was \$37,239.

The trend toward increased competition in hiring covers a broad range of industries, according to the NACE report.

However, employer responses nationally as well as at Hopkins cite fields such as business, engineering and consulting as those that have seen an especially remarkable increase in recent college graduates.

Milligan cited a substantial increase in activity from firms in industries that have traditionally shown interest in Hopkins students, like biomedical engineering, as well as a return to campus for fields from which students

haven't conventionally received much interest.

"Our numbers are good and if not more for some of the more traditional business, engineering firms," she said.

"[biomedical engineering] has definitely picked up this fall, but we've also seen consulting really come back ... to [Hopkins] for recruiting."

"With consulting, that really goes across all majors," she said.

Milligan cited a list of firms and companies that have continued to demonstrate a consistent interest in Hopkins graduates, including ApplicationsOnline, LLC, a Web-based computing solutions firm in Baltimore.

According to Milligan the group has been a perennial presence on the Homewood Campus since its founding in 1998 and "has recruited each year."

Dr. Joshua Reiter, president and founder of the firm, and an adjunct professor at Hopkins, described the company's interaction with the Career Center, saying, "They've asked us to help them with mock inter-

views, so we've done that ... they've asked us to present ... 'Breaking into' seminars, so we've presented at those."

On the whole, students agree that, for those who show the initiative, the Career Center can be an important resource in finding employment after graduation.

But some lament what they see as an inordinately lengthy waiting period before being able to meet with a staff member or the relative inefficacy of online resources.

Senior Micaela Browning, who has used the Career Center to search for internships and employment, said, "because it's sponsored by Monster.com, a lot of the stuff [on the Website] isn't catered specifically toward the types of jobs seniors would be seeking."

"It's pretty difficult to get an appointment with the Career Center," she said. "It takes way too long."

Some students, however, still express uncertainty about what services the Career Center might be able to perform for them.

Senior Gabe Hopkins said he's recently contemplated going to the Career Center, assumed that they'd be helpful, but was unsure exactly of how.

"I'm sure they know more than I do," he said. "I know they'd be useful to some extent."

According to the most recent statistics released by the Career Center, 42 percent of graduates in 2004 were employed full-time.

COLA to select 2006 MSE chairs

BY MITRA HESHMATI
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The Committee on Leadership Appointments (COLA) is currently receiving applications to chair next year's Milton S. Eisenhower (MSE) Symposium.

When elected, the chairmen are responsible for raising funds, one issue this year's chairs faced.

COLA will be considering various criteria in their selection, such as leadership experience and the strength of the candidates' proposals, especially their plans for fundraising and for getting their proposed speaker to campus as well as publicizing the events.

COLA member junior Neil Shenai said, "Since fundraising is the lifeblood of any good symposium, a clearly delineated plan for funding the symposium, both through the appropriated Student Council grant and outside donations is important."

"Anybody can take a group of famous, intelligent people and put their names on a piece of paper," he added.

The current co-chairs will also provide their input in the selection process. Co-chair senior William Ares said, "We will be sitting in on the interviews with the candidates and will offer our opinions of their proposals but will not have a vote in the process — that is the job of COLA."

The new chairs will also be faced with the task of raising funds to supplement the nearly \$40,000 in seed money from COLA.

Ares said, "I would advise people applying for the MSE chairs to come to the table with fresh fundraising ideas, as the opportunities that were enjoyed by chairs before us are no longer an option. I would venture to say that fundraising and new fundraising strategies will be the tipping point as to which team becomes the chairs."

This year, the MSE symposium was short of funds compared to last year's series due in part to a change in the SAC's guidelines on co-sponsorship which now only allow one group, the MSE Symposium, to apply for SAC funds for the event.

In the past, student groups such as the College Democrats and the ACLU have helped cover various costs for a speaker, but this is pro-

hibited under the new guidelines. Ares said, "All things considered, this new policy cuts back on MSE funding by about \$1,000 per event (which would have been \$6,000 this year)."

Funding is important since it may dictate the caliber of speakers the symposium is able to present, which then determine the audience and the successfulness of the series.

Shenai said, "COLA has found that the popularity of an event tends to be inelastic to the amount of publicity it receives, and wholly dependent on the notoriety of the speaker."

This year's symposium has been criticized for a lack of celebrity speakers as compared to past years, but which co-chair Emilie Adams believes did not detract from the quality of the series.

Adams explained, "While fundraising was a weakness, it was not due to a lack of effort. Also, the *News-Letter* at one point presented our speaker choices as a consequence of fundraising weaknesses — that is, implying that these speakers were chosen due to a lack of funds. This is definitely not true, and peering through our original proposal from last fall reveals we were faithful to many of our original picks."

Although leadership and fundraising are most important, political ideology of the speakers also plays a role in the symposium.

"I believe that one thing we did well this year that other teams should strive to do as well was to put on an ideologically balanced symposium," Adams said, "with speakers from both sides of the political aisle as well as speakers who were not particularly political but engaged the audience on topics never before covered, such as Neal Baer's lecture on Medicine and Hollywood which enjoyed a sizable crowd who thoroughly enjoyed the presentation."

Above all, Shenai said COLA is "looking for raw qualifications to run the symposium, first and foremost. Political ideology, 'connections,' and any other nebulous measures of performance are all secondary to the ability of each potential co-chair."

Applications for the position are due on Dec. 5, and the interview process will begin Dec. 12.

Shipler speaks of welfare fallacies

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else you have a workplace that is partially disabled," Shipler said.

"You do have to translate this into a problem that affects the power structure in order to get action," he added.

Shipler worked as a correspondent for the *New York Times* for twenty-three years, during which he reported from New York, Saigon, Moscow and Jerusalem.

"When I started working for the *New York Times* in the late 60s, I was covering housing, which took me into a lot of poor areas," he said.

"When I returned from eleven years overseas, I began to feel that I wanted to understand my own country as well as I could."

"He did spend many, many hours, many days talking and living the lives of the people who were caught in poverty even though they would work a forty hour week or longer," said Joe Stern, former editorial editor for the *Baltimore Sun*.

Sophomore Will Chang was one of few undergraduate students present at the event. "I thought it was a very well

executed speech, with excellent points. I personally agreed with them; not everybody might, but they were well argued. A good choice of speaker, overall," Chang said.

The Institute for Policy Studies' 2005-2006 Public Policy Seminar series will next feature a seminar on the "Economic Analysis of Homeland Security Policies" Feb. 7.

I began to feel that I wanted to understand my own country...

— DAVID SHIPLER, AUTHOR

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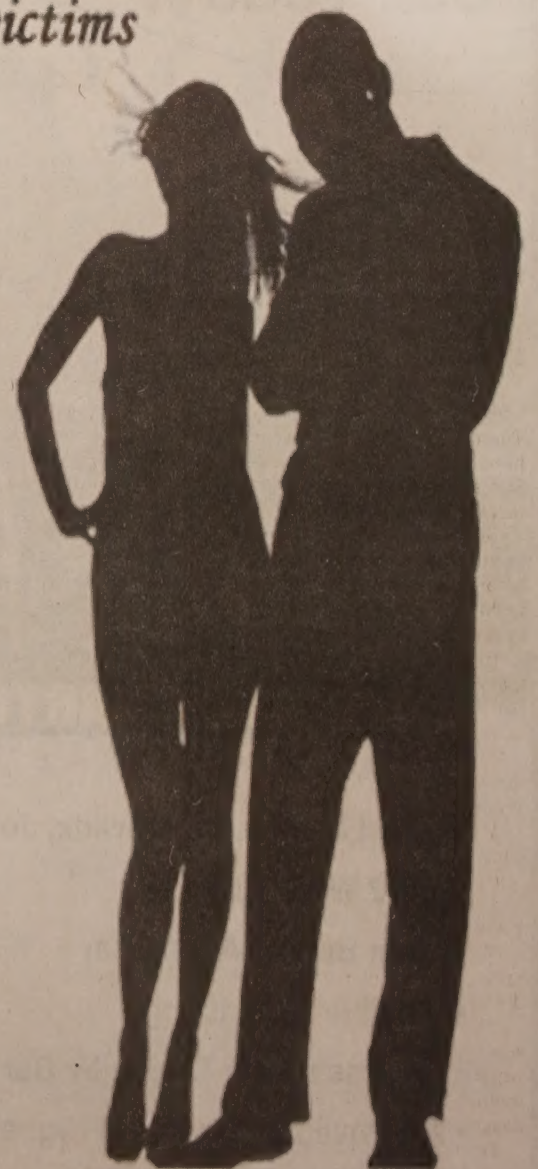
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NEWS

AROUND THE WORLD

NEWS BRIEFS

Alito outlined strategy for overruling *Roe v. Wade*

WASHINGTON (AP) — As a young government lawyer opposed to abortion rights, Samuel Alito argued for a legal strategy of chipping away at the landmark Supreme Court ruling rather than mounting an all-out assault likely to inflict a defeat on the Reagan administration, according to documents released Wednesday.

"No one seriously believes that the court is about to overrule *Roe v. Wade*," the current Supreme Court nominee wrote in an internal Justice Department memo on May 30, 1985. Referring to a high court decision to review two abortion-related cases at the time, he asked, "What can be made of this opportunity to advance the goals of bringing about the eventual overruling ... and in the meantime, of mitigating its effects."

The memo was among several hundred pages of documents dating from Alito's 1981-1987 tenure in the Justice Department, released on the day the Supreme Court heard arguments in an abortion case for the first time in five years.

The argument before the justices Wednesday concerned the validity of a New Hampshire law that requires a parent to be told before a daughter ends her pregnancy — roughly the type of case that Alito was writing about two decades ago when he urged the administration to seek small victories in its legal battle against abortion.

While no ruling in the current case is expected for months, the case will provide the first indication of Chief Justice John Roberts' views on abortion cases, and possibly a last word from Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. She has been the swing vote in the past on rulings that upheld abortion rights, and Alito's nomination as her replacement has raised the stakes for his confirmation battle.

— David Espo
The Associated Press

Canadian gov't. loses vote, special election set for Jan.

TORONTO (AP) — Prime Minister Paul Martin kicked off Canada's election campaign Tuesday with a slim lead in opinion polls after his minority government was toppled in a no-confidence vote in Parliament.

Scheduling the vote for Jan. 23, Martin used his first campaign speech to tout Canada's strong economy, which has unemployment at a 30-year low and the government running a budget surplus.

"Canada has gone from pauper to powerhouse. Deficits are history — we've had eight surpluses in a row now, helping to keep our economy strong," he said.

Canada's three opposition parties allied to bring down Martin's government Monday night, arguing his Liberal Party did not have the moral authority to govern because of a scandal implicating some of its senior members in kickbacks and misuse of federal funds.

According to a Strategic Counsel poll conducted for the Globe and Mail newspaper, the Liberals held a six-point lead over the strongest opposition group, the Conservative Party, but have lost ground in their stronghold province of Ontario and face an increased desire for change.

The voters' desire for change is not lost on Stephen Harper, the Conservative leader who used the word 38 times in his first campaign speech. "We need change to make government more honest, more accountable, more democratic," he said.

Harper said a Conservative government would move to restore the traditional definition of marriage between a man and a woman. Martin pushed to legalize gay marriage throughout Canada.

— Rob Gillies
The Associated Press

Va. governor commutes inmate's sentence to life

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — Virginia's governor on Tuesday spared the life of a convicted killer who would have been the 1,000th person executed in the United States since the Supreme Court allowed capital punishment to resume in 1976.

Robin Lovitt's death sentence was commuted to life in prison without parole a little more than 24 hours before he was to be executed by injection Wednesday night for stabbing a man to death with a pair of scissors during a 1998 pool-hall robbery.

In granting clemency, Gov. Mark R. Warner noted that evidence from the trial had been improperly destroyed, depriving the defense of the opportunity to subject the material to the latest in DNA testing.

"The commonwealth must ensure that every time this ultimate sanction is carried out, it is done fairly," Warner said in a statement.

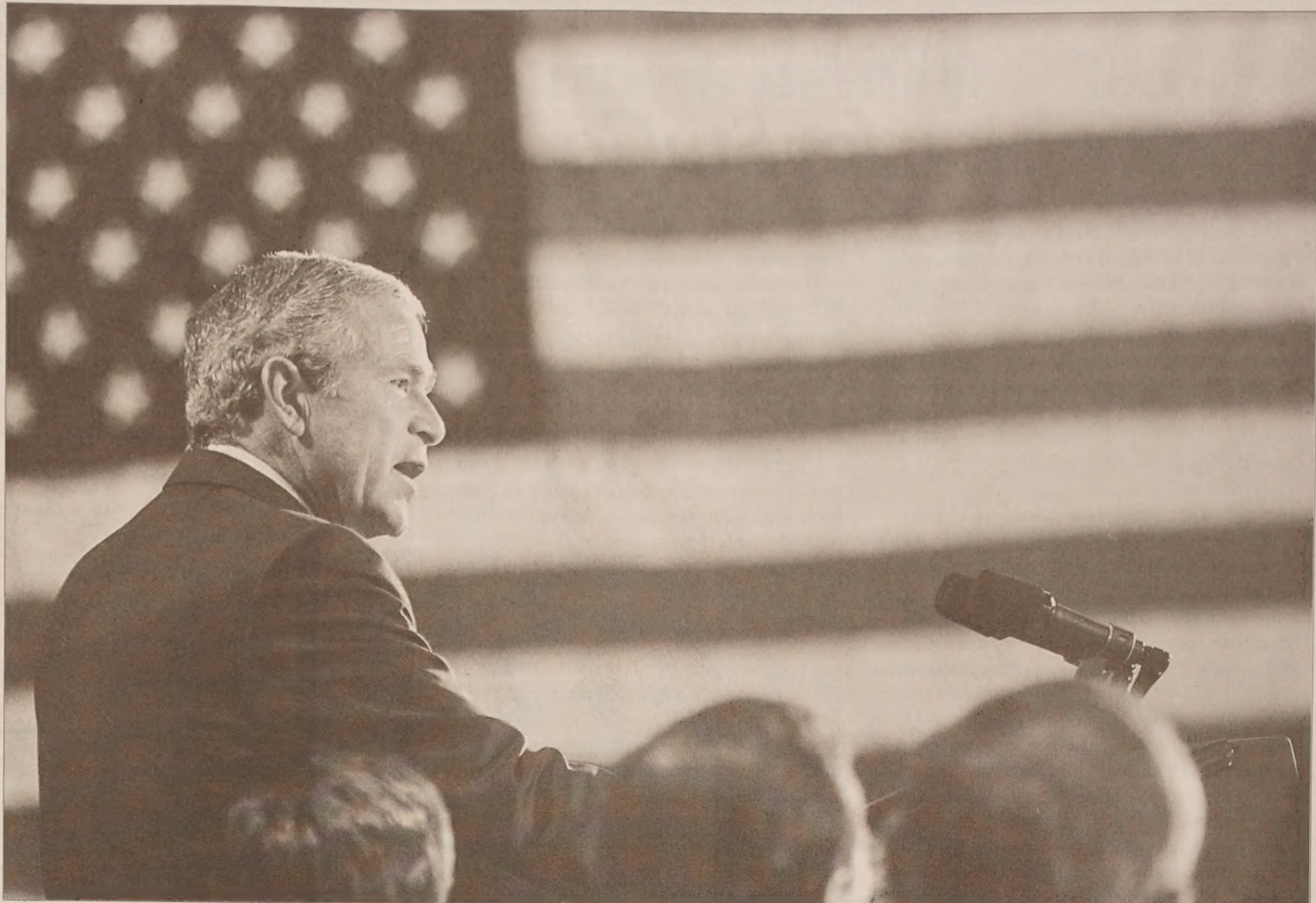
Warner, a Democrat, had never before granted clemency to a death row inmate during his four years in office. During that time, 11 men have been executed. Virginia is one of the most active death-penalty states, having executed 94 people since 1976.

The 1,000th execution is now scheduled for Friday in North Carolina, where Kenneth Lee Boyd is slated to die for killing his estranged wife and her father.

The 999th execution since capital punishment resumed a generation ago took place Tuesday morning, when Ohio put to death John Hicks, who strangled his mother-in-law and suffocated his 5-year-old stepdaughter to cover up the crime.

Lovitt's lawyers, who include Kenneth Starr, and anti-death penalty advocates had argued that his life should be spared because a court clerk illegally destroyed the bloody scissors and other evidence, preventing DNA testing that they said could exonerate him.

— Kristen Gelineau
The Associated Press



EVAN VUCCI/ASSOCIATED PRESS

President Bush outlined policies on immigration and the war in Iraq as he campaigns for Republican congressional candidates in Denver on Tuesday, Nov. 29.

Bush defends Iraq policy against critics

BY DEB RIECHMANN
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (AP) — President Bush, facing growing doubts about his war strategy, said Wednesday that Iraqi troops are increasingly taking the lead in battle but that "this will take time and patience." He refused to set a timetable for withdrawing U.S. forces.

Bush said the U.S. military presence in Iraq is set to change, by making fewer patrols and convoys, moving out of Iraqi cities and focusing more on specialized operations aimed at high-value terrorist targets.

"As Iraqi forces gain experience and the political process advances, we will be able to decrease our troop level in Iraq without losing our capability to defeat the terrorists," Bush told a supportive audience at the U.S. Naval Academy. "These decisions about troop levels will be driven by the conditions on the ground in Iraq and the good judgment of our commanders, not by artificial

timetables set by politicians in Washington."

Bush's emphasis on the readiness of Iraqi security forces came at a time when continued violence in Iraq and the death of more than 2,000 U.S. troops have contributed to a sharp drop in the president's popularity.

Even before Bush finished speaking, Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., claimed that the president "recycled his tired rhetoric of 'stay the course' and once again missed an opportunity to lay out a real strategy for success in Iraq that will bring our troops safely home."

House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi embraced a call by a prominent defense hawk in her party to immediately begin a withdrawal. Two weeks ago, Rep. John Murtha, D-Pa., set off a firestorm when he said a complete pull-out should be achieved in six months.

"The status quo is not working," Pelosi said Wednesday.

"There needs to be a full-court press of information available" to Congress

and the public, agreed Sen. Richard Lugar, R-Ind., chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee.

With lawmakers and others calling for a more sober assessment of the situation in Iraq, Bush acknowledged setbacks in the training of Iraqi forces. He recalled a time when Iraqi soldiers ran from battle, and said the United States has made several changes reflecting lessons learned from early mistakes in how Iraqis were trained.

"Some critics continue to assert that we have no plan in Iraq except to 'stay the course,'" Bush said. "If by 'stay the course' they mean we will not allow the terrorists to break our will, they're right. If by 'stay the course' they mean we will not permit al Qaeda to turn Iraq into what Afghanistan was under the Taliban, a safe haven for terrorists and a launching pad for attacks on America, they're right as well. If by 'stay the course' they mean that we're not learning from our experience or adjusting our tactics to meet the challenges on the ground, then they're flat wrong."

He did not say that the terrorists now

in Iraq had anything to do with the 2001 terror attacks in the United States, but he powerfully linked the two, saying they "share the same ideology."

Bush's speech did not break new ground or present a new strategy. Instead, it was intended to bring together in one place the administration's arguments for the war and explain existing strategy on a military, economic and political track. The president's address was accompanied by the release of a 35-page White House document titled "National Strategy for Victory in Iraq."

"To all who wear the uniform, I make you this pledge: America will not run in the face of car bombers and assassins so long as I am your commander in chief," Bush declared.

The 35-page fighting strategy released Wednesday maintains increasing numbers of Iraqi troops have been equipped and trained, a democratic government is being forged, Iraq's economy is being rebuilt and U.S. military and civilian presence will change as conditions improve.

Ca. congressman resigns after taking bribes

BY ELLIOT SPAGAT
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN DIEGO, Ca. (AP) — Rep. Randy "Duke" Cunningham, an eight-term congressman and hotshot Vietnam War fighter jock, pleaded guilty to graft and tearfully resigned Monday, admitting he took \$2.4 million in bribes from defense contractors to steer business their way.

"The truth is I broke the law, concealed my conduct and disgraced my office," the 63-year-old Republican said at a news conference. "I know that I will forfeit my freedom, my reputation, my worldly possessions, most importantly, the trust of my friends and family."

He could get up to 10 years in prison at sentencing Feb. 27 on federal charges of conspiracy to commit bribery and fraud and tax evasion.

Investigators said Cunningham, a member of a House Appropriations subcommittee that controls defense funds, secured contracts worth tens of millions of dollars for those who paid him off. Prosecutors did not identify the defense contractors.

Cunningham was charged in a case that grew out of an investigation into the sale of his home to a defense contractor at an inflated price.

The congressman had already announced in July — after the investigation became public — that he would not seek re-election next year. But until he entered his plea, he had insisted he had done nothing wrong.

Cunningham's plea came amid a series of GOP scandals: Rep. Tom DeLay of Texas had to step down as majority leader after he was indicted in a campaign finance case; a stock sale by Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist is being looked at by regulators; and Vice President Dick Cheney's chief of staff was indicted in the CIA leak case.

Cunningham, a swaggering former flying ace with the Navy during the Vietnam War, was known on Capitol Hill for

his interest in defense issues and his occasional outbursts.

In court documents, prosecutors said Cunningham admitted receiving at least \$2.4 million in bribes paid in a variety of forms, including checks totaling over \$1 million, cash, antiques, rugs, furniture, yacht club fees and vacations.

Among other things, prosecutors said, Cunningham was given \$1.025 million to pay down the mortgage on his Rancho Santa Fe mansion, \$13,500 to buy a Rolls-Royce and \$2,081 for his daughter's

graduation party at a Washington hotel.

"He did the worst thing an elected official can do — he enriched himself through his position and violated the trust of those who put him there," U.S. Attorney Carol Lam said.

Cunningham was allowed to remain free while he awaits sentencing. He also agreed to forfeit his mansion, more than \$1.8 million in cash, and antiques and rugs.

The case began when authorities started investigating Cunningham's sale of his Del Mar house to defense contrac-

tor Mitchell Wade for \$1,675,000. Wade sold the house nearly a year later for \$975,000 — a loss of \$700,000 in a hot real estate market.

Prosecutors did not specify if the house purchase was part of Cunningham's guilty pleas.

In addition to buying Cunningham's home at an inflated price, Wade let him live rent-free on the congressman's yacht, the Duke Stir, at a yacht club. Wade's company, MZM Inc., also donated generously to Cunningham's campaigns.

Hussein lashes out at U.S. in court

BY HAMZA HENDAWI
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — A combative Saddam Hussein lashed out Monday at his treatment by American "occupiers and invaders" and lectured the chief judge about leadership as his trial resumed in a rambling and unfocused session.

Two of the seven other defendants also spoke out during the 2 and a half hour hearing, complaining of their treatment in detention or dissatisfaction with their court-appointed counsel.

Former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark, who has joined the defense team as an advisor, said it was "extremely difficult" to assure fairness in the trial "because the passions in the country are at a fever pitch."

"How can you ask a witness to come in when there's a death threat?" Clark told CNN. "Unless there's protection for the defense, I don't know how the trial can go forward."

The tribunal adjourned until Dec. 5, only 10 days before the country's parliamentary elections, to give the defense time to replace lawyers who have been

assassinated since the trial opened Oct. 19. Monday was the trial's second session.

The court's tolerance of vocal complaints from the defendants drew sharp criticism from Shiite politicians who contend the tribunal is trying too hard to accommodate an ousted dictator who should have already been convicted and executed.

"The chief judge should be changed and replaced by someone who is strict and courageous," said Shiite legislator Ali al-Adeeb, a senior official in Prime Minister Ibrahim al-Jaafari's party.

Saddam, immaculately groomed and the only defendant wearing Western clothes, moved quickly to try to seize control of the proceedings at the heavily guarded Baghdad court.

Dressed in black trousers and a gray jacket with a white handkerchief in the breast pocket, the 68-year-old former president was the last defendant to enter the chamber.

While other defendants appeared frightened and exhausted, Saddam swaggered confidently to his seat, greeting people along the way with the traditional Arabic greeting, "Peace be upon the

people of peace" as he cradled a copy of the Quran.

Saddam began with a verse from the Muslim holy book that reminds believers who aspire for heaven that God knows who actually participated in jihad, or holy war.

He then complained that he had to walk up four flights of stairs in shackles and accompanied by "foreign guards" because the elevator was not working.

The chief judge, Rizgar Mohammed Amin, said he would tell the police not to let that happen again.

"You are the chief judge," Saddam snapped back, speaking like a president to a subordinate. "I don't want you to tell them. I want you to order them. They are in our country. You have the sovereignty. You are Iraqi and they are foreigners and occupiers. They are invaders. You should order them."

Saddam also complained that some of his papers had been taken from him.

"How can a defendant defend himself if his pen was taken? Saddam Hussein's pen and papers were taken. I don't mean a white paper. There are papers downstairs that include my remarks in which I express my opinion," he said.

THE JOHNS HOPKINS
NEWS-LETTER
PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

EDITORIAL

A vision for StuCo

On Sunday night StuCo President Atin Agarwal sent an e-mail to the student body, celebrating recent successes and announcing long-term agenda items. More significant, however, was his call for students to submit ideas and recommendations to StuCo for the second half of the year. In the spirit of cooperation, the *News-Letter* presents the following items of vital importance we hope to see StuCo carefully address during the second semester.

Advocate a real, centralized Student Union

If there is one factor lacking in the Hopkins experience, it is undeniably a sense of community. Upperclassmen live off campus, students are often more dedicated to finding an open cubicle on D-Level than they are to forming lasting friendships and — the perennial complaint — the Homewood campus is still without a centralized Student Union. While some progress has been made on the first two of these problems, little to none has been made on the third. Administrators claim that we're just one of the exceptional college campuses with a decentralized Student Union; this is bureaucrat-speak for, "Take a room or two from each building, put them together, and there's your Student Union." We need a single building that incorporates the social atmosphere of M-Level, the amusement of the HopStop, the charm of the Gilman lobby and the location of the MSE Library. It is time for StuCo to lead a charge against the University's resistance to constructing a building dedicated to student life.

Carry out the CUE Report recommendations

Most students are completely unaware that two years ago, the Committee on Undergraduate Education made many recommendations for improvements to the quality of student life on campus, which was found to be severely lacking. For the several months after the report that included these recommendations was released, the University made great strides to publicly execute them. Following the deaths of Chris Elser and Linda Trinh, these initiatives understandably took a back seat to pressing security concerns. But now that new security initiatives have taken root, it is time to return our focus to student life issues once again. If StuCo is looking for suggestions, they should immediately look to this document for a list of ideas. Everything from intramural sports to residential development is covered, and StuCo should be the loudest voice in support of the timely and effective completion of these projects.

Develop an efficient, visible source of public information

This year marked the unveiling of the JHBroadcast e-mail notification system, through which administrators sporadically hurl information — sometimes important, usually not — at students. While the system has marginally aided the dissemination of information to students, much of the information is unimportant to students. The StuCo weekly events e-mail is even more ineffective, as it is so bogged down with dates and events that next to no one reads it. The fact is that most students skip over the majority of their e-mail, leaving the current methods far short of an acceptable means of relaying important information. StuCo is going to have to get creative and find a way to quickly and concisely convey information to the entire student body in a way that is simply impossible to miss.

Become the interlocutor between students and faculty/administration

One of the more promising but short-lived ideas of the recent past was for the University to subsidize student dinners with professors, either individually or in groups. Novel ideas like this must not be allowed to lose their appeal, as one of the greatest concerns of students at Hopkins is professor interest. Most professors are in fact less detached than many students think, but they need students to initiate contact. StuCo should make it one of their chief responsibilities to encourage student-teacher relations. Furthermore, administrators significant to the academic lives of students must cease to be the invisible hand behind a curtain. Meetings between students, teachers and administrators outside of the classroom should be more frequent. StuCo should encourage students to reach out to their professors.

As a prominent voice for the student body and to the administration, StuCo has a high level of responsibility to make sure that the concerns of students are addressed promptly and with every resource possible. StuCo must be the unflinching advocate of the students. If StuCo takes the right approach, future alumni may think back on how much their student government was able to enhance their Hopkins experience and enact real change. This can be a year to remember. With StuCo at the helm every year can be a year to remember. The real work begins today.

Keeping an eye on security

In the past year, campus security at Homewood has undergone dramatic changes: gates at the entrances to dorms, increased security patrols, the installation of "smart" closed-circuit television cameras and the hiring of a new security service. The University's commitment to student safety is clear. On Jan. 31, 2005, President Brody sent a letter to the Homewood community outlining the University's security action plan, stating, "Nothing is more important than the safety and security of our students. Nothing." The University should be commended for the progress made thus far in fulfilling the security action plan. However, with new changes announced this past week, it is crucial that the University further examines its choices to protect its students and staff — as well as their rights.

As the University more than doubles the number of security cameras around campus, they must continue to monitor the use of these devices to guarantee that they are not used to punish students nor to invade anyone's privacy. Monitoring of the additional cameras will be made easier with the addition of a new communications center. Also, improving the dispatch system will hopefully cut down on response times in the event of a problem.

Perhaps the most visible change announced this week was the University's decision to switch to a new campus security company. The new year will mean a new contracted security provider for the Homewood campus — Allied-Barton Security Services. On paper, Allied-Barton, which will replace Broadway Services Inc. Silver Star Security, looks to be exactly what Hopkins needs: a company with years of campus security experience.

However, Hopkins administrators and Executive Director of Campus Safety and Security Edmund Skrodzki should not ignore recent problems with Allied-Barton at the University of Pennsylvania. An Allied-Barton employee at Penn wrote in a letter to the editor of *The Daily Pennsylvanian* that the low wages they were receiving forced many

of the security guards to work second jobs. This is unacceptable.

Allied-Barton's treatment of its employees has led to petitions, protests and even hunger strikes at other universities. The issue at hand is a crucial one — an adequate hourly wage for our security guards. The University has a responsibility to examine Allied-Barton's employment practices, including their employee benefit packages and hourly wages. It isn't fair to the security guards, nor to the community they are supposed to be protecting, that they have to secure a second job in order to support their families. Those who are working more than one job will not be as well rested and diligent to security concerns as those who are well paid, well rested and satisfied employees.

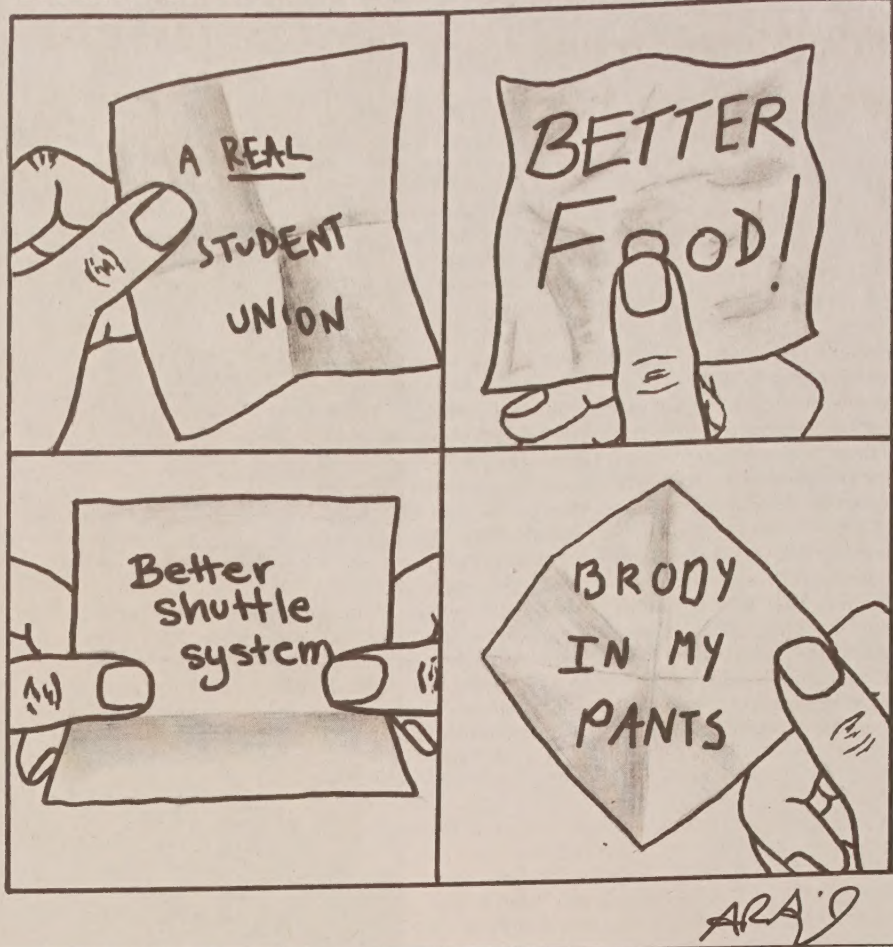
Many students who expressed concern over the switch from Silver Star Security to Allied-Barton did so because they felt the Silver Star guards had come to know the students, therefore providing them with a better sense of safety on campus. The switch in January will mean yet another period of transition for students and security guards to adjust to one another, hopefully rebuilding the same, if not better, sense of community expressed by students with Silver Star.

One way the University can ensure that the relationship between students and security guards is improved with the transition to Allied-Barton in both the short and long term is to ensure that the students see the same faces on campus on a regular basis. The University should make sure the same guards are positioned at the same posts each day, allowing these officers to quickly build relationships and familiarity with students in each building.

We must continue to ensure that the security of students is of the highest importance to the University. Each of us is responsible for providing suggestions, criticism and complaints to the security department and President Brody. We had their attention last year. We must ensure that we still do.

ANN RENEE ANGIULO

STUDENT RESPONSES TO STUCO'S OPEN CALL FOR SUGGESTIONS



LETTERSTOTHEEDITOR

Getting students out of MSE, into events

Big events and big crowds aren't necessarily one and the same, despite what you suggested in your staff editorial of Nov. 18. There's a lot more to the story than just putting an amalgamation of small entertainment pieces together to draw a crowd.

Take the *a cappella* groups as a great example. Sure, they bring in guest groups from the University or from other schools and flyer just like everyone else. There's a difference with them, though. The Sirens broadcast a Facebook invite before the show, the Octopodes practically wouldn't let me leave the Breezeway until I agreed to come to their show — and don't even get me started on the AllNighters. We all know who they are because we see them and they are out doing the footwork, almost dragging people out to their shows.

In your CultureFest article in the

same issue, Isi Oribabor was right in saying that flyering and banners only help so much — it really is word of mouth. The fact of the matter is that Hopkins students just don't know what is going on. By hiding in the library under mounds of books, we aren't particularly social college students, and until someone gives us a compelling reason to come out from

studying, it seems we'll stay that way. The shows that are successful are so not because they combine groups together but because they offer an entertaining performance and generate a lot of buzz in the days preceding the event.

David Johnson
Junior

LETTERS POLICY

The Johns Hopkins *News-Letter* welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 250 words. Letters must be delivered to the Gatehouse by Tuesday at 7 p.m. or emailed to News.Letter@jhu.edu for inclusion in that Thursday's issue. All letters received become property of the *News-Letter* and cannot be returned. The *News-Letter* reserves the right to edit for space, grammar and clarity. Letters must include the name, address and telephone number of the author. Letters credited only to organizations will not be printed. The *News-Letter* reserves the right to limit the number of letters printed.

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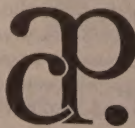
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OPINIONS

With the exception of editorials, the opinions expressed here are those of the contributors. They are not necessarily those of The Johns Hopkins News-Letter.

Undergrads finally earning administration's attention

There have always been undergraduates at Hopkins. It's true that our founding gift was meant for a hospital and accompanying research institution, but early on it became clear that there would be no support for Hopkins from the Baltimore community without a college of some sort. Simply put, any focus on undergraduate education came to Hopkins as an unfortunate necessity, and we still have yet to fully break free from this way of thinking.

I give a lot of credit to people like Susan Boswell, dean of student life; Paula Burger, dean of undergraduate education and vice provost; and other members of the current administration. They have a genuine passion for undergraduate education, and in the past ten years or so conditions for undergrads here have improved dramatically. Nevertheless, these deans operate in an insti-

tution with a long history of not taking undergrads seriously. Twice in the past century, University presidents have tried to cut bachelor degree programs from the school by eliminating funding for freshmen and sophomores entirely. Both times the plan wound up failing.

The remains of this way of thinking are not hard to see today. Consider the small size of student life facilities around this campus. The Hop Stop, Café Q, the Mattin Center and Levering Hall would all be well sized for a school of 1,400 — roughly the number of graduate students at Hopkins. However, for a school over four times that size they are clearly insufficient.

Another major issue is class size. Most undergrads, and many professors as well, are complaining that course enrollments are getting so large that it's getting increasingly difficult for students and professors to get to know each other. In organic chemis-

try, the situation is so bad that students often can't get seats in the largest lecture hall on campus. Smaller classes are often impossible to get into even as a junior, and it's easy to go through four years in this school without forming any real connection to your home department.

VIJAY PHULWANI

GUEST COLUMN

The general disregard for undergraduate education is also expressed in the education philosophy of this school. Some professors here look down on their colleagues who "waste their time" teaching too many undergrad courses at the expense of graduate studies. Grad students who come here are told early on that if they are interested in teach-

ing, they should go teach high school because Hopkins isn't about that. We have a small clinic where grad students are taught the basics of being a TA and attendance is not mandatory; many of our peer institutions require fairly substantial courses. I mean no disrespect to our grad students, but sometimes Hopkins' lack of concern for undergraduate education shows.

To come at the question from another angle, what do undergrads have to offer Hopkins? Well, the school has already noticed the millions of dollars they receive annually from our tuitions. And the \$55 million gift from alumnus Michael Bloomberg, as well as other large donations from alumni, probably didn't hurt either.

The public at large tends to evaluate universities on their undergraduate programs (and rankings) and professional schools. By comparison, the reputations of graduate programs tend mainly to be

known by specialists in the field and academicians. Undergraduates are the most visible segment of a university, and just as it was over a century ago, we are essential to its reputation.

What, then, is to be done? The Charles Commons project is a step in the right direction, though if its facilities are too small it won't do much good in the end. Class size is being addressed by the Academic Council, and while smart policies can help at the margins, the ultimate answer is more spending to meet the needs of undergrads. As to overall philosophy, we must take it upon ourselves to be more assertive of our own needs make our presence felt.

Undergraduate education is already the bread and butter of the modern university, but here at Hopkins, we're only just starting to get our due.

—Vijay Phulwani is a junior political science and classics major from Johnstown, Pa.

Too few writing classes

It was Nov. 9, the morning of the Writing Seminars spring semester pre-registration, and it was cold. I had schlepped to Gilman at 6:45 a.m. so that I could lock down spots in my first-choice classes, but, to my dismay, there were already more than 30 people lounging up and down the first floor hallway by the time I walked in. While waiting, a friend and I trolled the line, failing to solicit submissions for *Zeniadda*, and we asked the guy at the front, a sophomore, how long he'd waited in order to be the first. "All night," he said.

DAVID AVRUCH

GUEST COLUMN

I was surprised; I felt as though a threshold had been crossed. This student had waited all night just to get into Rudiments of Fiction or one of the few other workshop classes open to sophomores fresh out of the Introduction to Fiction and Poetry series. I give him props for his determination. However, his all-nighter represents what's wrong with the Writing Seminars department: there are too few writing workshops to go around.

Let's look at the numbers. There are 150 Writing Seminars majors, give or take, who are sophomores or above — making it the second-largest major in the school. For next semester, there are 19 courses (and the two IFPs) offered — not bad, at first glance. However, of these 19, only ten are true workshops: classes dedicated to the writing and peer critiquing of literature. The other nine are investigations of literary techniques, surveys of great authors' works, genre studies and other classes that may contain a creative component but are not workshop-based.

The ten remaining workshops offer a combined amount of 165 spots to undergraduates; again, a seeming cornucopia, unless someone felt like taking more than one workshop or someone from another department wanted in on the fun. However, a new rule instituted by the department, to take effect next term, limits a student to no more than one workshop class per semester. According to assistant registrar Betsy Ryan, this will ensure that all students have a spot in workshop.

I find this puzzling, because to me workshop represents the heart and soul of the Writing Seminars program. It is the forum where a student stands to answer for the art he's created, the place where objectivity is relative and personal opinion reigns. It has nothing to do with getting the A or topping the curve; in fact, workshop is completely antithetical to the culture of cutthroat academia that our school unfortunately tends to inculcate. A roundtable egalitarian assessment, a free flow of ideas and thoughts — workshop, basically, is all about the writing.

The new one-workshop rule is more than just a bad attempt to mask the lack of available workshops: it is actually detrimental to the creative process. The more writing a student is producing, the better that writing will be overall. To take more than one workshop in a semester is to commit oneself to the creative process for that semester, and the quality of work produced under such circumstances is like day and night. Granted, a two-workshop semester is taxing, but so is this school. To intentionally reject the more hard-core approach required by some areas of study is to allow a student's creative muscles to atrophy when they ought to be exercised. Far from limiting them, I think students of writing ought to be encouraged to take more than one workshop per semester.

We shouldn't have to spend a night in Gilman just to get into a decent workshop (or two). What we need are more workshops — especially for fiction, the most popular Writing Seminars curriculum — and more teachers to lead them. There aren't enough spaces for the majors as is, let alone for those writers who happen not to be Writing Seminars majors.

—David Avruch is a senior Writing Seminars major from Brookline, Ma.

IN FOCUS: DIVERSITY

Racial quotas for NFL coaches would hurt the game

As a former high school football player and a huge fan of any sort of football, there is nothing that I appreciate more than a good football game. Recently though, the sport has come under intense scrutiny for supposed racism and diversity problems.

For instance, some have criticized the lack of diversity of coaching and management positions both in the NFL and the college levels. Critics have constantly called for quotas or certain "special" hiring practices, which essentially means interviewing a black coaching candidate before any others. As a minority in America, I am sympathetic to race issues, and I am disgusted to see a person discriminated against just because of his skin color. However, I do not find this to be an example of the existence of racism in the NFL today.

For instance, we often see criticism of the management and coaching positions

"That's [expletive]. I don't care if you are white, black or Asian, if you can play football, you'll play football."

Basic economics dictates that a team will be punished for discrimination. The purpose of every NFL team is to create the best product on the field and to try to win the Super Bowl. Thus, the team's interests would be served by placing the best-qualified players, coaches and managers they can get. Good coaching is an essential piece of winning in football. For instance, Parcells transformed a mediocre Cowboys team into one at the top of the NFC East. Likewise, talented teams like the Buffalo Bills display a haplessness and inability to win, in part because of terrible coaching.

If a general manager wants to be racist

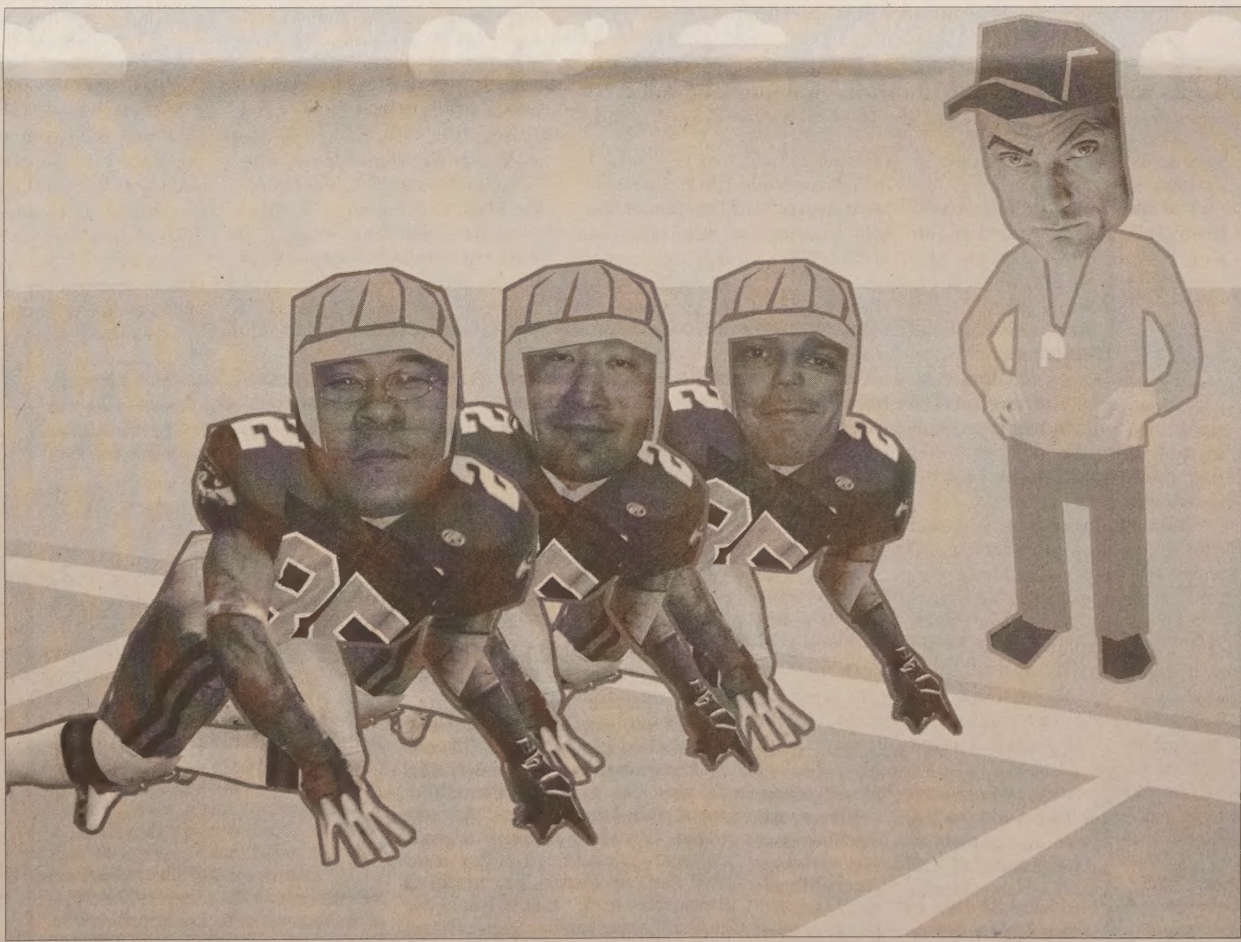
and intentionally chooses a non-minority coach over a more qualified black one, he will do so knowing full well his team will not be as strong. Furthermore, an opposing team would be more than willing to pick up this qualified coach and improve their results. In a sport where front office personnel are often fired very quickly for a poor showing on the field, the general manager will likewise be held accountable for choosing the less qualified coach. This analysis holds for all levels of football personnel.

It is improbable that a team would be willing to utilize the services of black athletes who have demonstrated their competency but then turn around and discriminate against qualified black coaches. Qualification, not race should be the overriding factor

in determining if one should win a position, like Parcells aptly noted. In a free-market system, one bears a significant cost in discriminating solely on the basis of race.

Every year, Korean and Chinese students at Hopkins play a tremendously sloppy but fun game of football against each other on the Beach: a tournament known as the "Rice Bowl." The sight of a bunch of Asians going up against each other in a game of football certainly looks unusual, especially considering how there are virtually no Asians who play professionally. However, if you keep watching, you'll notice: We really aren't that good at the game. Maybe there's a reason we aren't in the NFL Racial quotas have no place in professional sports.

—Kane Kim is a junior economics major from Englewood Cliffs, N.J.



WILLIAM PARSHALK/NEWS-LETTER

Riots highlight need for stronger French civil rights

Fifty years ago today, a woman by the name of Rosa Parks refused a white man's demand that she sit in the back of the bus because of the color of her skin. This principled stand sparked boycotts, marches and protests; it spurred an entire civil rights movement that, over time, has forced our government to provide people of all races equal treatment under the law.

But while minority rights have greatly improved in the U.S. over the past 50 years, they have yet to reach much of Western Europe, despite that region's claims of having the most "enlightened" nations in the world.

Over the last year, France has seen the Rosa Parks episode all over again. Except instead of being asked to sit in the back of the classroom, young Muslim women (and to a lesser extent Sikh and Jewish men) are being expelled for wearing the headscarves and covers which are mandated by their religions. Minorities are stuck in an institutionalized racist system that gives them fewer opportunities to advance in society.

The backlash of this discrimination was not immediate, but we've seen it over the last

month. Muslims and other immigrant minorities, disenchanted by the way they have been treated, have taken to mass rioting in the streets and suburbs of France.

The rioters themselves are thugs, and if President Jacques Chirac shows even one of them the slightest bit of clemency, it is an invitation for more violence. At the same time, however, the riots show that it is time for some self-reflection on the part of the French people. France is a nation plagued with anti-Semitic and anti-Islamic sentiment, and it is in danger of becoming a racist state.

The French government claims its law banning religious symbols in schools was motivated by a desire to ensure the separation of church and state and was not targeted toward any specific religion. Many Americans, before the civil rights movement of the 1960s, tried to find similar excuses, like arguing civil rights was a states issue or claiming racist hiring processes were merely meant to maximize profit from racially-biased clientele.

The truth is, the French have a number of policies motivated by prejudice. It's no coincidence that France and the highly xenophobic Netherlands were the only two countries to reject the European Union Constitution this summer. Many of the French people believed that, despite their best efforts, Turkey would eventually have a place in the E.U. Turkish inclusion would mean the immigration of Muslims into Western Europe, a prospect that brought E.U. op-

ponents to the polls in large numbers. In many ways, France has a beautiful culture. And while most Americans subscribe to either the "melting pot" or "mixed salad" theory of immigrant integration, we can appreciate France's desire to protect the culture they've developed over many centuries.

But if they are trying to protect their culture, France is going about it the wrong way. Banning girls from wearing religious headscarves isn't going to force them to become more "French;" it will merely drive them to Muslim private schools. And reject-

ing Turkey's role in Europe isn't going to force them to become more "European;" it is going to push them away.

France's attempt to preserve their culture from Islamic influence, a goal that is dubious to begin with, only isolates Muslims further. And if Muslims do not feel accepted as citizens of France or Europe, their great potential for contribution will never be felt.

We made the mistake of excluding African Americans from mainstream America, and by the time we allowed them to contribute to our society, it was almost too late. Now we're spending billions of dollars a year fighting the poverty and racism that we could have avoided in the first place by enacting strong government policies against racism.

Now it's time for the French to take a look at their own society. They have the opportunity to turn everything around, and to avoid the decades of strife the United States experienced during the civil rights era. If France ignores their own prejudice, however, they risk losing the very identity they are trying to protect.

—Marc Goldwein is a junior political science and economics major from Merion, Pa.

MARC GOLDWEIN

TO THE POINT

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Colleges offer video games major

BY STEPHEN BERGER
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Every few years, a new major is added to the offerings at Hopkins to keep up with changes in academia and in the job market. Neuroscience, East Asian studies and history of science all draw from exciting and relatively specialized fields of inquiry. If trends at other colleges are any indication, the next major to be offered at Hopkins might be video games.

Schools as diverse as Carnegie Mellon, the University of Southern California and Parsons, the New School for Design, have started programs to teach students everything they need to know about the next generation of interactive media.

But hardcore gamers should be warned: the programs are anything but playtime. Classes at these schools focus on teaching students how to create realistic and engaging games. They are often taught from both an artistic and a computer science approach, and they frequently demand a serious time commitment in labs and group projects.

According to the people involved with the programs, they are intended for students interested in joining the growing digital gaming industry. Industry insiders say their businesses today are experiencing the growth movie studios and television stations did decades ago, making them eager to recruit new talent.

Add to this growth the increasing complexity of computer, video, and Internet-based games, which means there is a broader and more difficult set of skills to learn to be successful. They include story and character development, art design and how to integrate the latest hardware, as well as the technical elements of programming.

Video gaming classes help students turn an idea for a game into a completed and marketable final product. Group projects in which games are



The video games sophomores Eric Cheskin and Brendan McFarland play may one day be a Hopkins major.

developed from scratch are a common teaching tool. The hope of these programs is to send out graduates ready to start designing the next generation of interactive entertainment.

Programs in game programming reflect a larger trend among colleges and universities. Technology-related majors are springing up at institutions of higher learning across the country, even at staid and traditional schools, in response to changing realities in the American job market.

From nanotechnology to virtual reality to the Internet, the modern worker must navigate a maze of technological advances when choosing a career. Traditionally, much of the advanced training for these sorts of technical jobs occurred after the employee was hired. But more and more, tech companies demand specialized knowledge before they will even consider an application.

That's where these new college

programs come in. They supply technical know-how and experience long before a student enters the real world, where resources are spare and mistakes are costly. They also nurture promising talent and serve as a hotbed of new ideas and fresh approaches to old problems.

Skeptics question whether such areas of study are necessary or appropriate in colleges and universities. Some people in the video game industry argue that the only way to learn how to be successful in the industry is to actively participate in the process at a real company.

Other skeptics ask if game design is a true academic discipline, worthy of being taught in the halls of a prestigious university. Applied technical studies may be out of place among the classical disciplines of academia. They echo the sentiment that specialized technical knowledge should be learned by experience in industry.

MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

Proponents of these courses respond that the growing complexity of video games, and of technology in general, makes it crucial to develop a sound theoretical basis to back up everyday practice. They point to the early years of the film industry, when schools teaching actors and directors sprang up across the country and had a crucial impact on the success of the new industry.

Despite these ongoing doubts, tech-related majors are likely to become more prominent at colleges and universities in the coming years. Specialized education in college will help students tailor their interests and hone their skills, while giving industry the best and the brightest. Who knows: your next class could be PacMan 101.

New study assesses pandemic threats

BY SANDYA NAIR
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Researchers at the Bloomberg School of Public Health have published a study that uncovers new methods for dealing with the impending threat of an avian flu pandemic. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), the possibility of an influenza pandemic is "inevitable and possibly imminent."

The need to develop strategies for preventing an influenza pandemic led Dr. Daniel Barnett, of

the study indicate, "The matrix is a four-by-three table that provides an organizational map for examining the major factors that may contribute to an injury before and after a specific event. The four columns are the factors that contribute to an injury (host, agent, physical environment, sociocultural environment) and the three rows are the major time points relative to the event (pre-event, event and post-event). The researchers adapted this model to examine the events surrounding an avian flu outbreak. The authors of

The matrix can break a complex problem into more manageable segments.

— DR. DANIEL BARNETT

the Hopkins Center for Public Health Preparedness, to collaborate with other researchers from Hopkins, George Washington University and Dr. Ran Balicer of the Epidemiology Department at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Be'er Sheva, Israel. Together, the scientists applied a model, originally developed to assess traffic safety injury, to evaluate possibilities for thwarting the influenza pandemic. The study was published in the Public Library of Science Medicine and can be freely accessed at <http://www.plosmedicine.org>.

The researchers used the Haddon matrix, created by Dr. William J. Haddon, Jr., the first administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, to develop recom-

mendations for flu preparedness. The matrix is a four-by-three table that provides an organizational map for examining the major factors that may contribute to an injury before and after a specific event. The four columns are the factors that contribute to an injury (host, agent, physical environment, sociocultural environment) and the three rows are the major time points relative to the event (pre-event, event and post-event). The researchers adapted this model to examine the events surrounding an avian flu outbreak. The authors of

the study indicate, "The matrix can break a complex problem into more manageable segments."

Of the four factors, the authors indicate that the most difficult to modify is the agent, "since viruses generally cannot be modified easily as injury-causing devices." The researchers used the Haddon matrix to analyze influenza preparedness in Thailand and Israel. The analyses showed that the use of the Haddon matrix revealed strategies to prevent the threat of an avian flu pandemic through effective planning.

In essence, the authors of the study suggest that, "in face of the challenges described, the Haddon matrix reflects its applicability as a systematic tool for identifying urgent national and international pandemic readiness needs."

Birth control options abundant

BY ESTHER HWANG
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Once upon a time, women could only pray and hope that they wouldn't get pregnant, or, if that failed, resort to some noxious substances in desperation to prevent an unwanted or inconvenient pregnancy. Contraception methods have come a long way from the early 20th century, when Margaret Sanger began her crusade for hormonal contraception, known more commonly today still as "the pill." Upon the pill's release to the American public in 1960, the modernization of women began to take full stride.

The pill provided women with an extremely effective means of contraception that the woman can control by herself. With a more effective rate of contraception than male condoms, diaphragms and other devices out there at the time, women embraced the pill. Within the next 40 years, society saw improvements in the pill and the evolution of hormonal contraception choices. Today, women

have an overwhelming number of options.

The female reproductive system is influenced by two key steroid hormones — estrogen and progesterone — that work in response to signaling from the hypothalamus in the center of the brain. The hypothalamus, upon receiving hormone signaling, triggers the anterior pituitary, located right next to it, to begin producing gonadotropins, or hormones that stimulate the gonads. In the female, they are the ovaries.

Within the ovaries, a menstrual cycle signal allows for estrogen and progesterone levels within the ovaries to increase, triggering ovulation of an egg. As the egg travels down the fallopian tube in hopes of fertilization, the uterine lining, known as the endometrium, will begin to thicken in preparation for implantation. If no fertilization occurs, the woman has a period.

Hormonal contraception, however, utilizes the hormone signaling between the brain and gonads in what Dr. Janice Evans of the Bloomberg School of Public Health

refers to as "negative feedback."

The contents of the pill and similar measures "trick" the female body into believing that there is sufficient levels of estrogen and/or progesterone cycling through the body, thus shutting down the gonadotropin surge within the ovaries and causing ovulation not to occur.

Progesterone by itself uses the body's defense system to create a barrier. It thickens cervical mucus, making it difficult for sperm to penetrate. Furthermore, the endometrium lining reacts by becoming poorly receptive to embryonic implantation.

According to Evans, pills should be taken regularly at or around the same time each day. You need not start a pack on a Sunday either.

Despite what many gynecologists say, the FDA has stated that hormonal contraception does take its full effect in a week of its first dose, not the mythical month that many women worry about.

In any case, to maintain the full effectiveness rate, hormonal contraception must be properly administered.

U.S. renewable energy use low

During the last six months, the United States has come to face the harsh reality of dwindling oil supplies and the political and human costs of foreign dependence.

Baltimore's own U.S. Representative Elijah E. Cummings, D-Md., is co-sponsoring a bill that would begin to ease the nation toward a self-sustainable energy policy.

The Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Act of 2005 would require the United States to generate 20 percent of domestic energy from non-hydropower renewable energy sources by 2020. Currently, only six percent of the nation's energy is renewable.

The act refers to energy sources that capture energy from existing flows of energy. Recent advancements in wind and solar power technologies have provided incentives for building new power plants, particularly in the western states.

Other renewable energy sources are biomass, geothermal and hydropower, which can be produced from tidal or river sources. Biomass energy is derived from burning renewable plants and plant products.

The environmental soundness of hydropower has been under debate, as several dams have been found to interfere with the ecosystems near

Alternative hydropower technology can utilize tidal currents and ocean waves to generate power.

The United States presently consumes 26 percent of the world's yearly oil production, more than five times the average per capita consumption. United States oil reserves account for only three percent of the total world supply.

Congress recently decided to raise fuel economy standards for light trucks by about six percent

ing an energy source that could be derived from renewable resources.

Western European countries have already committed to utilizing renewable energy resources and setting promising goals for future energy self-sufficiency.

Germany, for example, currently produces 10 percent of its energy primarily from wind and solar plants. The country plans to produce 20 percent by 2020 and 50 percent by 2050. Sweden currently produces one-third of their energy from renewable sources and hopes to achieve 60 percent by 2010.

The European Union is seeking energy independence and insisting on environmental consciousness. Large investments in wind and solar energy farm have spawned increased industrial production of these technologies.

On the local level, students from Hopkins are urging administrators to remain competitive with other universities by purchasing a portion of the school's energy from wind-power sources.

Many top universities have committed to purchasing renewable energy. The University of Pennsylvania buys 10 percent of its energy from wind sources while Harvard purchases seven percent. Hopkins has yet to commit to purchasing renewable energy.

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YOUR NEWS-LETTER

GREEN GOALS TO IMPROVE CAMPUS

New recycling policies are initiated to make Homewood more environmentally friendly

BY MITRA HESHMATI
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Homewood had an admirable recycling rate of 29 percent in 2004, meaning a good amount of solid waste was recycled, but there is always room for improvement.

Recycling Coordinator Pat Moran says, "I do believe there is much that can be done to help educate the Hopkins population."

NEW GOALS

Two new goals of the recycling office are to promote paper recycling in the dorms and to make the recycling effort more visible to students by having a better system of trash collection. Having two containers on the collection cart, one for recycling and one for trash, will make it easier for the custodians and show everyone else that the recycling is not being ignored.

Paul Furlong, President of Students for Environmental Action, says, "Some people see janitors picking up the trash and throwing it all in the same bin as the recycling. What usually happens is that there's a lot of trash mixed in with the recycling, so they just have to throw out that bag."

The new collection system may help improve this image. Moran says, "It'll help make people realize that we're serious about this. We actually care about recycling."

RAB EFFORTS

The Residential Advisory Board is also concerned about the minimal recycling in on-campus housing and is working to make recycling

more accessible to students.

Community Advisor Pam Gomutputra says, "RAB is mapping all the trash cans around campus to see if the locations of these are efficient and convenient. Moreover, we are also going to undertake the task of educating students who live in the dorms to raise their awareness on the issue."

The recent purchase of fireproof paper recycling bins for Wolman and McCoy is part of the effort to promote paper recycling in the dorms. Due to the cost of these containers, students in the past had many more outlets for recycling bottles and cans than for paper. Furlong explains, "We couldn't put paper recycling on any of the floors because it's against the fire code. We had to order fireproof bins."

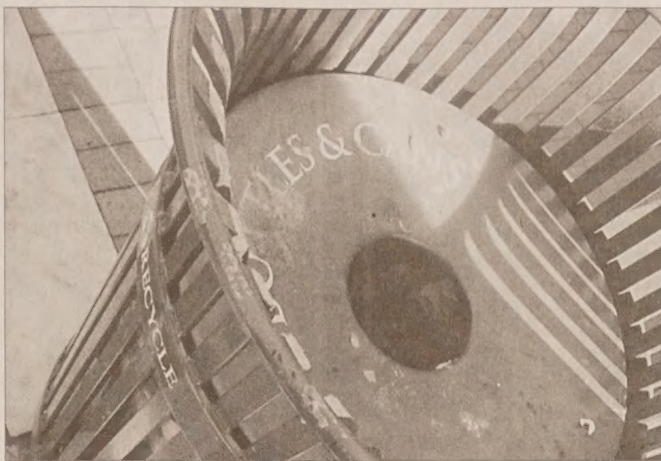
OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING

SEA hopes to establish recycling programs in off-campus housing as well, particularly in the Marylander, the Carlyle and the Broadview — the large apartment buildings that house many students.

Furlong says, "None of them have recycling programs at all. It's going to be a lot of work to get that to happen but we're going to see what we can do."

INITIATIVES

Recycling on campus began as a student volunteer effort in 1990. In 1996, an administrative position was established to coordinate the program. SEA remains active in the recycling efforts and worked last year to increase the purchase of post-consumer recycled goods.



Recycle bins like this are located all around the Homewood campus.

"We had a campaign to get a bunch of departments on campus to buy post-consumer recycled paper which was successful," Furlong says, "We got maybe about half of the departments on campus to buy recycled paper."

Aside from helping to change departmental policies, there are small steps that anyone can take to make a long-term difference. Think about the classic 4 R's: reduce, reuse, recycle and recover. Think about what sort of products you are buying and whether they can be reused or recycled. Also, use the outlets available on campus for recycling and avoid contaminating the recycling bins with trash.

LIVING IT GREEN

"The average baby born today will consume over its lifetime more energy and goods than 23 babies born in India," according to an article by Dr. Robert Lawrence and Dr. Polly Walker of the Center for a Liveable Future in the School of Public Health.

REDUCE

Use refillable printer ink cartridges, reusable grocery bags, donate old clothes/furniture.

REFUSE

Use the outlets available on campus; don't mix trash with recycling.

RECYCLE

Buy post-consumer recycled products, especially chlorine-free paper.

RECOVER

Homewood Solid Waste Weights 2004	
1361 tons incinerated trash	
454 tons paper, cardboard	
44 tons cans, bottles	
Recycle Rate: 29 percent	
25 tons electronics	
9 tons furniture	
3 tons toner cartridges	
Note: Hazardous wastes and most dining waste are not included	

Instant Message

File Edit Insert People

IM: Love or hate?

OFFICIAL MEMBER TEAM ZISSOU

Whether or not you participate in the beloved time killer, instant messaging, very few of us know how the term was coined. According to *Wikipedia*, it originated from Paul M. A. Linebarger's science-fiction stories in the 1960s. Interestingly, the earliest versions of America Online actually called their service "FlashMail;" the name was undoubtedly changed when users began to speak of "flashing" one another.

The earliest use of a messaging system was in the early 1970s on the private computer network system PLATO. In November 1996, ICQ introduced a system for public use. At the end of 2002, AOL Time Warner was issued a U.S. patent for instant messaging: A new generation of communication was born.

Here at Hopkins, there is a plethora of different messaging systems on campus because of the international student population. MSN Messenger is the most common for international students. Sophomore Joe Vasoontara said, "I use both AIM and MSN, but I think MSN is better because it has more features."

Yet, international and American systems are far from seamless. "My friends from study abroad in Scotland have MSN, and it seems so much more complicated. I have a hard time transferring files to them," said second-year graduate student Tara Hiens. Vasoontara agreed, "Sending files to students at other schools with MSN doesn't always work."

Additionally, instant messaging can be a huge distraction. Sophomore Brooke Meade admits, "AIM distracts me when I am trying to do work. I never get anything done, because I'm either talking to people or checking their away messages." In an effort to be more efficient, freshman Allison Brusati insists, "I have AIM, but I never use it. I think it's a waste of time. I would rather just talk to people on the phone." Whatever your stance or system for the instant messaging phenomena, it can't be denied that global communication is an irreplaceable aspect of the modern world, and at Hopkins, we are never ones to be left by the wayside.

—Christine Higgins

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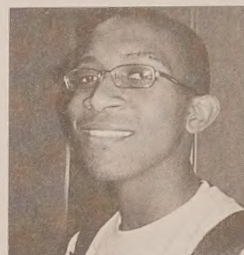
How was your Thanksgiving?

"I had an Indian thanksgiving — lamb instead of turkey. I went to the Macy's Day Parade and witnessed a balloon fall onto the street. I later found out that it had hit two small children."



Seung Ho Jung
Sophomore, international studies

"I went home with my roommate from Boston. I met his family and friends and got to see Harvard Square."



Brandon Lawrence
Sophomore, philosophy

"I had dinner at my cousin's restaurant — Gill's Tavern in Tallahassee, FL. There was an open bar and we were there till about ten at night."



Megan McCeigh
Junior, chemical engineering

"I made a turducken — it's a turkey with a duck and a chicken in it. We stuffed it, and smoked it and ate it."



Elena Fedyszyn
Freshman, political science

—compiled by Natalie Baer

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5. *Collide* — Howie Day
6. *I Want You* — Rachael Yamagata
7. *Cannonball* — Damien Rice
8. *Get It Together* — Brendan Benson
9. *Guernica* — Brand New
10. *Dakota* — Stereophonics
11. *Why Can't I* — Liz Phair
12. *My Paper Heart* — The All-American Rejects
13. *3am* — Busted
14. *This Love* — Maroon 5
15. *Iris* — Goo Goo Dolls
16. *Inside and Out* — Feist

—compiled by Song-yi Lee

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Swimming sinks against D-I Yale

BY CLAIRE KOEHLER
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

In their only home meet of the season, the Johns Hopkins men's and women's swim teams went head-to-head against some Ivy League competition, taking on Yale University.

The meet last Tuesday afternoon marked just the second meeting ever between Hopkins and Division I Yale. Last year, in a stunning athletic event, the Hopkins men's team narrowly defeated the Bulldogs (136-126). This time, Yale avenged their embarrassing loss against the men, defeating both Hopkins teams. The Bulldogs won 181-81 over the men and went 189-72 against the women.

"We had fun against Yale," said head coach George Kennedy. "They beat us, but it was great to compete against Ivy League competition. Yale was much better than we were last Tuesday. Their freshman class was fantastic."

Hopkins won five of the 28 events at the meet, with Yale taking the other 23. Freshman Kristin Cunningham was the only Hopkins swimmer to win multiple events. She took both the 50-yard freestyle in a time of 24.52 and the 100-yard freestyle in 53.51.

The other winner for the Lady Jays was sophomore Erica Pakkala who defeated the Bulldogs to take the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 1:01.48.

"The Yale meet marked the end of the hardest part of the first half of



Junior Rich Guerard swims freestyle against Yale. He was part of the second-place 200-yard medley relay team.

MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

our season, so it was tough to get up and race when we were so tired," said senior co-captain Katie Herbst. "But the team came together well and we had some great in-season times. Overall, it was a positive experience as we head into our first championship meet this weekend. We're ready to rest and swim even faster."

Herbst placed second in the 1000-yard freestyle in a time of 10:38.11, just three seconds behind

the winner.

On the men's side, senior co-captain Tyler Harris continued his strong tradition in the 100-yard breaststroke, defeating the D-I swimmers to capture the event in just under a minute, finishing in 59.74. Freshman Colin Kleinguetl joined him in the winner's circle with a time of 9:47.42 in the 1000-yard freestyle.

In the relays, the Hopkins women placed second behind Yale in the 200-yard medley relay with a time of 1:51.92. Cunningham, Pakkala and juniors Allie Foster and Kelly Robinson led the Jays to their narrow silver medal finish. In the 400-yard freestyle relay the ladies again took second place with a time of 3:43.21. This time, Cunningham and Foster were joined by senior Kalei Walker and freshman Jackie Rooney.

This weekend, both the men and the women will travel to Oxford, Ohio for the Miami Invitation. Each

year, many Hopkins swimmers qualify for NCAA championships at this meet. Last year, a total of 20 swimmers eventually qualified for the championships, 12 men and eight women.

Last year, the Hopkins men's squad finished fifth out of seven teams, and the women's team placed seventh out of nine. The Blue Jay men's team has finished in the top five for the last six years while the women have placed in the top ten a total of seven times in the past eight years.

"Our team should be well-prepared for the Miami Invitational," said Kennedy. "That is what we have been focusing on since September."

After this, the team gets its first break from competition as they do not compete until mid-January when they travel to the University of North Carolina to swim against more Division I competition.

Wrestling places sixth at Oneonta

BY ZACH GOODMAN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The Hopkins wrestling team is a young team. And they're doing exactly what young teams do: growing, and fast.

On Saturday, Nov. 19, the Jays, without a full lineup, accumulated 72 points and took sixth out of 11 teams at the Red Dragon Invitational in Oneonta, NY. Wilkes won the tournament with 141 points.

Hopkins' finish included five wrestlers placing in the top six. Of those five, two finished as high as second place.

For one of those two, the finish was surprising even for him.

"I did better than I expected to," said freshman 165-pounder Chris Floyd. "I came in unseeded and beat a couple of upperclassmen, and I was pretty happy with that."

Floyd came within inches of a stunning upset for the championship, losing 5-3 in the final to Cortland State's Troy Tooley, the No. 1-seeded wrestler in the bracket. But the loss came after Floyd already shocked the tournament with three wins against more experienced and higher-ranked wrestlers. He opened the day with an 11-7 decision over Southern Maine's Andrew Dawkins to set up the biggest nail-biter of the tournament. The victory pitted him against the second seed in the bracket, NYU's Ryan Cooley.

Floyd clung to every point for the duration of the match. When the buzzer finally sounded, he had a one-point edge in a 7-6 victory. He took that momentum into his next match for one more convincing upset, a 10-0 drubbing of Southern Maine's Brandon Comstock, the No. 6 seed.

"I love to compete," said Floyd, "and there's nothing better than winning."

Giving the Blue Jays' two consecutive runners-up, senior co-captain and 174-pounder David Kraus also wrestled his way into the finals. The No. 2 seed, Kraus convinced all in attendance that his injury-shortened 2004 season was a distant memory.

"It's good to see Kraus making it back after his injury from last year and coming in second place," said head coach Keith Norris.

Kraus began and ended his day with 10-1 decisions, but the last one

was not in his favor. The championship round pitted him against top-seeded Kyle Hauptfleisch of home Oneonta State, who proved too much for Kraus, and took the major decision for the first-place finish. The sour note was an unfortunate ending to a successful day in

I came in unseeded and beat a couple of upperclassmen, and I was pretty happy with that.

— FRESHMAN 165-POUNDER CHRIS FLOYD

which Kraus won four consecutive matches to reach the final round.

Junior co-captain and 141-pounder Marco Priolo also notched his share of upsets en route to a third-place finish. He warmed up with a 12-1 decision over Southern Maine's Paul Guidone, before facing fourth-seeded Roman Walsh of Worcester Polytechnic Institute. Priolo, the fifth seed, upset Walsh 2-0. But the win sent Priolo to face the top seed in the bracket and eighth-ranked 141-pounder in the nation, Paul LeBlanc of Cortland State. Priolo kept the match close, but it was not enough, as LeBlanc took the 5-2 minor decision.

In the consolation bracket, though, Priolo was undeterred. He bounced back to beat the No. 3 seed, NYU's Billy St. Pierre by a score of 6-2 to reach the third-place match. There he decided RIT's Luke Baum 6-4 to nab third place.

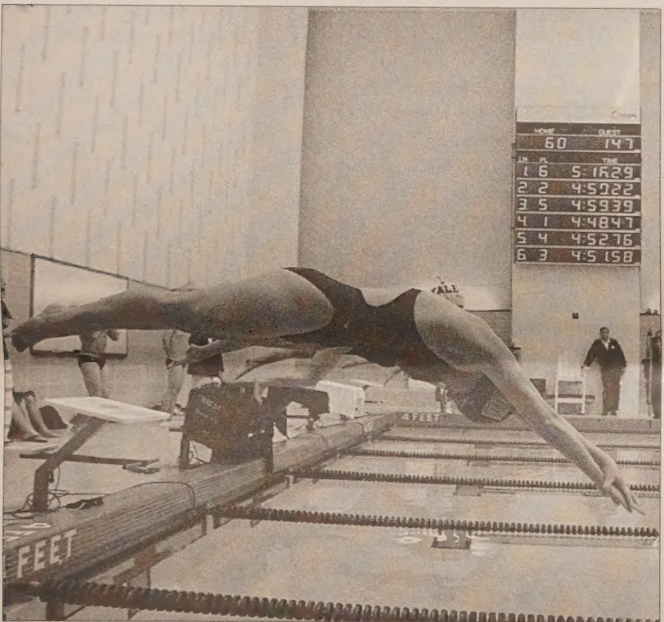
The last two Jays to earn top finishes were sophomore 184-pounder Eric Fishel and freshman 197-pounder Tyler Schmidt, each earning sixth place in his respective bracket. Fishel finished as expected, taking sixth after having been seeded No. 6. Schmidt, however, was unseeded and had to prove himself against a familiar opponent before earning his sixth-place finish.

After losing his first match against the No. 1 seed, Brandon Kelly of Wilkes College, Schmidt put together two wins in the consolation bracket, setting up a match against Hopkins' other entrant in the 197-pound weight class, co-captain Jonathon Freeman. The freshman fought mightily against his captain, earning a surprise 3-2 victory. The performances by the Blue Jay freshmen were a boon to the young wrestlers trying to secure a spot in the lineup.

The team's performance was praiseworthy, especially considering the absence of junior star 125-pounder Jimmy Van Daniker.

"We had five kids place out of the eight weight classes we entered, so that was pretty good," said Norris.

The Jays return to action on Dec. 2 when they head to Grantham, Penn. for the Petrofes Tournament.



Lady Jays dive off the starting platform in the Nov. 22 meet vs. Yale.

MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

M. Basketball starts season strong

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A12
playing against host team Villa Julie, the Blue Jays saw a lead they held the whole game slip away in the last five minutes of the game, losing to the Mustangs 81-78 in overtime. Despite holding a six-point advantage at halftime, and being up by as much as ten points in the second half, the Mustangs used a relentless offensive attack as well as an offense that executed superbly down the stretch to knock off Johns Hopkins.

The Jays were led by Griffin and Nawrocki, who each poured in 23 points and cemented the Blue Jay attack from the post positions. The Mustangs were able to force overtime by making clutch shots down the stretch, and in overtime they simply overwhelmed the Blue Jays with their offensive attack.

Griffin and Valerio were named to the All-Tournament team for the Blue Jays.

While the rest of the Hopkins student body was feasting on their Thanksgiving day meals, the men's team traveled to South Carolina to face an extremely strong Division I Furman team.

The Paladins, who lost to Bobby Knight's Texas Tech squad by only nine points, were simply too much

for the Blue Jays to handle. With better athletes and a strong offensive force, the Blue Jays never had a chance, trailing 57-26 at halftime and eventually losing 91-55.

Despite the tough loss to Furman, Nelson learned a lot about his team over the first few weeks of the season.

"We're extremely deep," said Nelson. "We are 10-12 players deep, and I think the freshman are really growing quickly. Scott (Weisenfeld) and Colin (Kamm) are playing really well for us at the guard positions, and giving us lots of depth in the backcourt."



Junior guard T.J. Valerio jukes a Salisbury defender.

MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

The Blue Jays, whose official record stands at 2-2, play Muhlenberg at home on Saturday at 4 p.m.

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Thiel wideout ends Jays' season

Brandon Chambers' three scores kill Hopkins' playoff hopes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A12
At the conclusion of the game, the common belief for the seniors was that their magical ride was over. For all of them, they had played in their first and last NCAA playoff game.

Even in the loss, many Hopkins players achieved individual goals. Junior wide receiver and Centennial Conference Offensive Player of the Year Anthony Triplin finished the game with 11 receptions, giving him 77 for the season — one shy of the Hopkins school record.

Scott's field goal was the 30th of his career, making him the top kicker in Hopkins' history for field goals made, and Lyons' 45 yards rushing gave him 2,525 for his career — making him only the fourth running back in Hopkins history to rush for more than 2,500 yards.

"While those accomplishments are nice, I'm definitely looking forward to next season," said Scott. "During baseball this spring, I'm

also going to be getting ready for football season."

Despite their success, one wouldn't expect the returning players to rest on their laurels. While many seniors are graduating, the team retains a young, vibrant core of players.

Hopefully for them, they will be able to parlay this season's success into an even more successful 2006 campaign — which would mean that once again, they would travel into even more uncharted waters.

It seemed like [Thiel wide receiver] Brandon Chambers was almost their whole offense.

— JUNIOR KICKER BEN SCOTT

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ATHLETE OF THE WEEK
AMANDA LEESE, WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Women's hoops is led by Leese

BY DREW LEFKOF
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Senior Amanda Leese remembers facing a 4-1 deficit four years ago, knowing that she would come away as the New Hampshire state singles tennis champion.

Leese admits that despite being a good tennis player, it was not simply being better than her opposition that allowed her win.

"I knew how to compete and that was a skill that developed over many years," said Leese. "Being able to get the job done in a pressure situation is critical. I won that match not because I was a better tennis player, but because I knew how to compete when I was down."

Leese, a 6-foot forward on the basketball court, also knew how to lead Hopkins to a 45-42 win over

Carnegie Mellon at last week's Blue Jay Invitational. Leese recorded 11 points and a key steal in the waning moments to secure Centennial Conference Player of the Week and invitational MVP honors, while lifting the Jays to the championship game against Rhode.

As co-captain of the team, Leese also led her team with 16 points and seven rebounds, as the Jays won the tournament with an overtime victory over Rhodes 72-67. She also managed to drain six points and bring down nine rebounds despite falling 75-66 to Scranton last Sunday.

"I try to bring a level of consistency to my team whenever I step on the court," she said. "When the game comes down to the wire, I need to step up and stay focused and help keep the team on track through the game's erratic moments."

She credits her many years of experience playing sports for providing her with the competitive edge that has allowed her to excel.

"I've been in organized sports since I could basically walk. I swam for eight years and that bred an ability to train and exposed me to pressure situations that are found in any sport," she said.

As her success at tennis shows, Leese doesn't limit herself to just one sport. She also swam for eight years, and played soccer and ran cross country at Bishop Guertin in New Hampshire. She even played two years of tennis for the varsity team at Hopkins.

Leese feels that her background with multiple sports has helped her hone her competitive edge on the court.

"Every sport teaches you how to be a composed under competition," she said. "You learn how to keep yourself under control in any pressure situation in order to maximize your performance."

Leese has career highs of 23 points and 20 rebounds, despite missing three games last year because of injury and an additional ten games — the last ten games of the season — because she was studying abroad in Croatia and Bosnia.

Despite missing so much playing time, Leese is still very optimistic about how this year's team will fare — and with the solid performances that she has provided for the team, she has every reason to be.

"We have a big freshman class this year, but we have a good dynamic and a lot of leadership that sets a good pace. We're a fast team and we have a natural ability to capitalize. We have a great shot to do some big things this season," she said.

She said that non-mandatory pick-up games prior to the formal preseason served as a time to become comfortable with the team dynamic.

"We played a couple hours a day and really took it to each other. It is one of my favorite parts of the whole season. We're just out there having fun," Leese said.

VITAL STATISTICS	
Name:	Amanda Leese
Position:	Forward
Height:	6'0"
Major:	International Studies
Hopkins Highlights: Averaged 13.5 points and 12 rebounds in the Blue Jay Invitational on Nov 20-21; was awarded tournament MVP.	



COURTESY OF [HTTP://HOPKINSPORTS.COM](http://HOPKINSPORTS.COM)
Leese was named MVP of the Blue Jay Invite, which the Jays won.

Fencing fends off D-I teams

Jays head to Midwest, beating Michigan and Northwestern

BY ALENA GEFFNER-MIHLSTEN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Some teams can look at records of 7-6 and 12-6 and call it a season. Fencing calls it a weekend.

Facing numerous opponents over just two days, both the men's and women's fencing teams managed to play magnificently against both Division I and Division III schools.

For the women, the team left the Northwestern Invitational with seven wins and six losses. The men left with eight wins and five losses. That same weekend, the split-squad men's team also played in the Stevens Tech duals and went 4-1.

Although the men's team played with less than the usual amount of players due to the interfering conferences, they still managed to fulfill their expectations.

"It was pretty much how I expected," said men's head coach Austin Young. "We came out very strong in all of our matches."

In the Northwestern Invitational, the men's team had many hard matches but managed to beat University of Michigan and Cal State-Fullerton in two of their closest competitions. Hopkins also beat strong squads from Michigan State, Lawrence, and Northwestern.

In several close games, however, the Blue Jays lost to UC San Diego and University of North Carolina. Although the team was unable to beat Notre Dame, last year's NCAA champions, overall, the Jays shocked themselves by winning the foil category.

"It was a very pleasant surprise," said Young.

For the Stevens Tech duals, the Blue Jays were able to secure several very important wins. For the first time, Hopkins beat Army in a close 14-13 match. Against New Jersey Institute of Technology, the Blue Jays' épée team completely shut out the opposition.

Both junior Tom Fellows and freshman Dane Schiro were undefeated for several of the epee matches. Hopkins also did well in

saber and foil, especially in the meet against Army, which tipped the balance in the Blue Jays' favor.

The women also did well at Northwestern, beating several high-ranking teams. For the first time in women's fencing history, Hopkins beat Air Force. In addition, despite losing to University of Michigan last year, Hopkins came back to beat them this year after a tight 14-13 contest.

"We beat the schools that we should have," said women's head coach Jim Murray. "We were very mentally focused for two days." The women also lost a close game to Wayne State.

The team members also felt that they met their expectations.

"We held our own," said team captain Katherine Dunne. "We fenced against teams that recruit and we managed to come out ahead."

Many of the teams that Hopkins plays against offer athletic scholarships and recruit internationally.

The Blue Jay women also suffer from a lack of players, especially when compared with other schools. While most teams have player depth in their bench with 15-18 fencers, the Lady Jays currently have only ten fencers.

This leads to mental and physical exhaustion at the longer tournaments such as at Northwestern, where essentially all ten fencers have to compete for two straight days. The fencers have a harder time keeping their focus and trying to avoid a mental overload.

"It's tough when you don't have people to replace you," said Dunne. "That's why we really emphasize fitness so that we have the stamina for these tournaments."

The main thing that Hopkins

took away from the tournament was learning experience.

"It's a great experience to go to this, especially for the freshmen," said Dunne.

Murray agreed.

"We now have a good idea of what the top college fencers do, now having seen them all play," said Murray. "We come back so much smarter. We're tremendously enriched by just being at that tournament."

The women's team will have a chance to put their new knowledge to work this weekend.

At the National Intercollegiate Women's Fencing Association's (NIWFA) Christmas Invitational at Farleigh Dickinson, the Blue Jays will

compete individually, instead of for team placement

"In an individual tournament, we preview schools that we'll see later on in the year," said Murray. "It gives us a chance to see what's out there."

These long tournaments are inevitable for the Jays, but for both the men and women, the motivation and challenges are one and the same.

"We've got a strong season in front of us, as well as many strong teams to face," said Murray.

We beat the schools that we should have. We were very mentally focused for two days.

—WOMEN'S HEAD COACH JIM MURRAY

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CALENDAR

SATURDAY		
W. Basketball vs. Muhlenberg	2 p.m.	
M. Basketball vs. Muhlenberg	4 p.m.	
TUESDAY		
W. Basketball vs. McDaniel	6 p.m.	
M. Basketball vs. McDaniel	8 p.m.	

SPORTS

DID YOU KNOW?

Three running backs from San Diego have won the Heisman Trophy: USC's Marcus Allen in 1981, Colorado's Rashaan Salaam in 1994, and Texas' Ricky Williams in 1998. USC running back and San Diegoan Reggie Bush was recently voted as the favorite to win the Heisman by a panel of ESPN experts.

M. B'ball starts 2-1 in D-III matches

BY JOHN MONAGAN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

It's after Thanksgiving break, the turkey has been served, the potatoes mashed and the weather in Baltimore is getting colder, which means one thing — Goldfarb Gymnasium is heating up.

The men's basketball program already has five games under its belt, even though only three were against Division III opponents. After an exhibition defeat to Loyola College, the Blue Jays bounced back, advancing to the finals of the Pride of Maryland Tournament.

They followed that effort with a long trip to South Carolina to battle Division I opponent Furman University. Despite a tough opening schedule, the men stand at 3-2 overall, with a 2-1 record in Division III.

Back on Nov. 18, the Blue Jays battled the Sea Gulls of Salisbury in the opening round of the Pride of Maryland tournament. Played on the Homewood Campus, the Blue Jays used a large home court advantage and a rowdy crowd of supporters to defeat the Sea Gulls 76-61.

Led by junior guard TJ Valerio, who netted 29 points, making six out of nine shots from behind the three-point line, Hopkins took the lead early and kept it, leading 32-20 at halftime and keeping the margin throughout the game. Junior forward Dan Nawrocki added 13 for



MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER
Junior forward Zack Armen soars over a Salisbury defender to sink a layup in the Jays' 76-61 victory.

the Blue Jays.

In the semi-final game of the tournament, played at Villa Julie College just outside of Baltimore, the Blue Jays faced off against Centennial Conference foe McDaniel College. Despite some hot shooting from McDaniel guards from beyond

the arc, the Blue Jays were able to hold onto an early advantage, and defeated the Green Terror 88-80.

The Blue Jays were led by two forwards whom coach Bill Nelson expects to improve from last season and hold down the frontcourt. Junior Matt Griffin had 17 points and

four rebounds, while classmate Chris Morley netted a career-high 15 for the Blue Jays.

"Matt Griffin has really been our most consistent player offensively and defensively, thus far," Nelson said. "Chris Morley is also playing extremely well. He is playing with a lot more confidence this year. He's got quick ups, is an active defensive player, and is playing aggressively on the offensive end."

In the finals of the tournament,
CONTINUED ON PAGE A10

Women's basketball wins Blue Jay Invite

BY DAVID NGUYEN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The women's basketball team broke ground on the 2005-2006 season this past week, collecting two important victories to claim the Blue Jay Invitational crown and later dropping a 75-66 decision against No. 5 Scranton.

Although the Blue Jay Invitational was a great showcase for the latest edition of the Blue Jays women's basketball team, the game against national powerhouse Scranton was a better measure of how this squad would fare against a tough schedule this season, a season in which the Jays will face six teams that played in last year's NCAA Tournament.

"Scranton was a final four team last year and having the opportunity to play them early, I think, is an advantage for us," head coach Nancy Funk said. "It will tell us right away what we need to work on."

After grinding out two games against Carnegie Mellon University and Rhodes College with average margin of victory of four points, the Blue Jays demonstrated they could outplay quality teams in a close match and come away with a win.

Unfortunately, that mindset didn't translate into a win against Scranton.

Much like the previous two games of the Blue Jay Invitational, the Jays had to overcome a slow start. The Blue Jays fell behind by as many as 19 points in the first half and 17 points in the second half before putting together a solid run to narrow the gap to two points.

Sophomore forward Andrea Dodrill, freshman point guard Jonay Foster and freshman forward Jessica Rice sparked the run, with each

scoring a bucket. Senior forward/guard Katie Kimball followed with her own 5-0 run by scoring off a fast break lay-up and hitting a shot from behind the arc. Junior forward Julie Miller hit two of her six free throws and a layup to close the scoring for the run, which would bring Hopkins within two points at 58-56.

But the Lady Royals pulled away over the next nine minutes using a pressure defense to claim a lead of 74-64 with less than half a minute left. With precious seconds melting off the clock, the Jays were only able to muster two more points before the end of regulation.

The stat sheet was a testament to the Jays' solid play, where they posted a 39-32 rebound advantage and 46.3 percent field goal percentage, a season high. But the Lady Royals accumulated the stats that secured them the win. They had a 45.3 percent field goal percentage, including 75 percent from behind the arc, and forced 25 Blue Jay turnovers while only committing 16.

While the Blue Jays have had success in collecting boards and shooting accuracy, they will have to address the slow starts that have plagued them in the young season. In games against Carnegie Mellon University, Rhodes College and, most recently, Scranton, the Jays have started slowly and as a result have had to overcome significant deficits.

The Blue Jays begin Centennial Conference play this week with a game at Swarthmore College on Wednesday at 6 p.m. and a home game against Muhlenberg College on Saturday at 2 p.m. Both games are doubleheaders with the men's team.

The Jays have won their last four meetings with Swarthmore, and won their last five games against Muhlenberg.

Football loses in opening round

Jays' first-ever NCAA playoff run ends in 28-3 loss to Thiel

BY BRIAN GALBRAITH
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Heading into uncharted waters, the Hopkins football team was not exactly sure what to expect with their NCAA Playoff game versus Thiel. Leaving the game after a 28-3 loss to the dynamic Thiel squad, they could only hope for better luck next year.

In what was the final game for the Hopkins seniors, the Blue Jays put forth a great effort that was simply not enough against a Thiel squad that completely outmatched the Jays. Heading into the game 10-0, Thiel used their high-octane offense, which consisted of both an electric passing game and a punishing ground game, to completely rip the Blue Jays apart.

While the game started off in sync with the Hopkins blueprint, the rest of the game was dictated by the Tomcats. On their first defensive series, Hopkins forced Thiel to punt. As Hopkins took over, senior running back T.J. Lyons helped coordinate what was Hopkins' most successful drive, culminating in a 22-yard field goal by junior kicker Ben Scott.

"While it felt good to get points, on the sidelines settling for a field goal felt like a letdown," said Scott. "We were so close that a touchdown was expected."

After the field goal, it looked like Hopkins was going to make this game business as usual. Unfortunately for them, Thiel had other plans.

On Thiel's next possession, se-

less-looking play into a knife in the heart of the Hopkins defense.

"It seemed like Brandon Chambers was almost their whole offense. Everything revolved around him," said Scott. "He just made some really good plays. He was really fast."

Before halftime, Hopkins hoped to regroup and score on their next possession. After the ball switched hands again, lightning struck for a third time, as Chambers made a 26-yard touchdown reception on a post pattern that had him wide open.

On a day where the Hopkins game plan was to contain the speedy senior, it seemed

that the Hopkins defense was attempting to stop the unstoppable.

Coming out of halftime, the Hopkins offense could not generate any more scoring, and Thiel essentially ended the game with a final touchdown halfway through the third quarter. Senior quarterback Zach DiLunno attempted to get something going — throwing for 116 yards — but he was under great pressure from the Thiel defense for most of the day and was unable to generate much.

CONTINUED ON PAGE A10



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INSIDE

Jays can't outswim
Yale at home

A pack of Hopkins swimmers pulled off individual wins, but the men's and women's swimming teams both fell to Yale on Nov. 23. **Page A10.**

Leese leads
women's hoops

Senior forward Amanda Leese wins Athlete of the Week for chipping in 27 points and 24 rebounds in two games of the Blue Jay Invitational. **Page A11.**

Wrestling sixth at
Oneonta

At the Red Dragon Invitational in Oneonta, N.Y., an unseeded Blue Jay freshman almost pulled off a stunning championship. **Page A10.**

The B Section

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2005



PHOTOS BY SHANE JUDITH ROSEN-GOULD/NEWS-LETTER

(From left to right) A young Parisian woman sports a colorful Russian-inspired style; boots and a summery dress make for a breezy look; a woman pairs a black poncho and cowboy boots; cut-off stockings give everyday garb an edge.



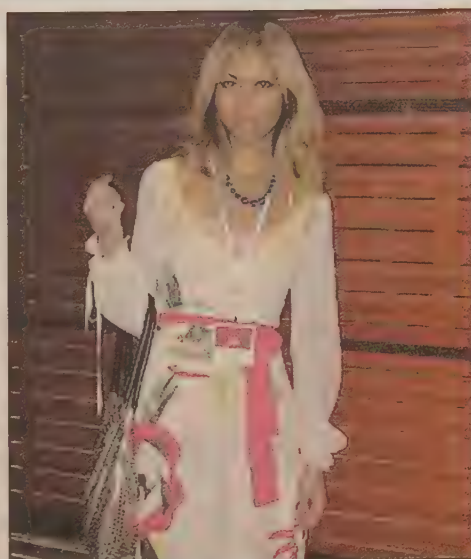
French Connection

Notes from the world's fashion capital



PHOTOS BY SHANE JUDITH ROSEN-GOULD/NEWS-LETTER

Two women add texture to contrasting ensembles with a touch of lace (top); a colorful print dress brightens up any style (right).



Recently, News-Letter reporter Shane Rosen-Gould, currently studying abroad in Paris, documented the fashions that graced the streets of the City of Light this fall. Rosen-Gould captured several of the season's contemporary French styles in a series of photographs taken throughout Paris over several weeks. She shares her take on the looks below.

BY SHANE JUDITH ROSEN-GOULD
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

What do Russian princesses, cowboys and the French Legion all have in common? They are the inspirations behind the chicest looks found on the Parisian streets this fall. The season's palate consists of rich colors such as aubergine, burgundy, and chocolate brown. Intended to echo the seasonal changes found in the parks and trees of the city, they signal a progression from the warm summer tones that adorned the city's well-dressed just months ago. With the change in color comes the gradual change in both materials and layering, with clothes carefully combined to form collages of fabric and design.

Among the most noticeable change in the wardrobe of French women is the trend of wearing longer, heavier skirts with more traditional patterns, a step away from the more cutting-edge, shorter versions found during the balmy days of summer. Full, embroidered peasant skirts of heavy luxurious materials are often paired with high leather boots, an exemplary dichotomy of current trends and timeless style.

CONTINUED ON PAGE B5

Talking poetry with Prof. Irwin

BY HEATHER BARBAKOFF
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Writing Seminars professor John Irwin spoke to the *News-Letter* about his new book, an epic poem entitled *As Long As It's Big* and published under the pen name John Bricuth.

News-Letter: Why did you choose to write this novel in narrative poetry?

John Irwin: Well, remember that the great tradition of poetry has always had long narratives. ... Narratives were done in poetry before they were ever done in prose, that was the staple, going back to the *Iliad* and *The Odyssey*, so why at this point? Simply because I had made a decision several years ago to do longer narratives in poetry, because I think in a longer narrative you can get at emotions and feelings about life that are often difficult to get at in a shorter poem, particularly those emotions that have to do with living experience and the

sense of what life is about after you've lived it for 40 or 50 years.

N-L: Do you have a specific writing process?

Jl: I was chairman [of Writing Seminars] for 19 years, and over that time I developed the ability to write while other things were going on. So generally speaking I write in the afternoons in the office. If it's a specific writing technique, it is the ability to keep writing no matter how many interruptions.

N-L: Why do you use the name John Bricuth?

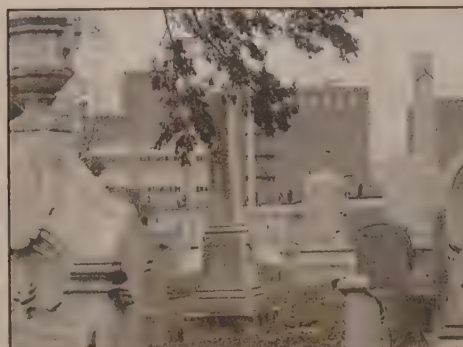
Jl: I've done this since I've started publishing poetry. I've always wanted the poetry and the criticism to be accepted on its own basis. You may notice that often if someone writes both criticism and po-

etry, you become better known for one than for the other, in my case criticism as opposed to poetry. What usually happens then ever after is the one for which you are less known for always gets reviewed as, in my case, the poetry of a critic. I wanted each of them to be considered on their own merits without relation to one or the other. I just want it to be looked at as poetry on its own merits.

N-L: What do you want your readers to get out of *As Long As It's Big*?

Jl: Well, I hope they laugh at the funny parts. What I had aimed for ... is that sense of life — having lived experience over a certain number of years and the kind of wisdom that that imparts, and the sense of the way in which life doesn't know, doesn't recognize generic differences such as tragedy and comedy, it doesn't separate them.

• Read the review of *As Long As It's Big*, Page B6



MATT HANSEN/NEWS-LETTER

The cemeteries of Baltimore invite paranormal investigation from the city's ghost hunters.

Hunting B'more ghosts

BY ALEX VICKROTH
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Late one night, a student, engaged with AIM, is startled when a light on the other side of the room suddenly clicks on — all by itself. A passerby hears mysterious sounds in an empty room and sees chairs clattering across a floor, unmoved by any human hand. With events like these, paranormal activity is often the only

explanation.

Even cynics and skeptics who write off TV "psychics" and "mediums" as hacks are apparently eager to learn more about the paranormal. One only has to look at the popularity of documentaries, television programs, books and films that explore the world of ghosts to see a public devoted to the paranormal.

CONTINUED ON PAGE B3

DIVERSITY FOCUS

Admissions considers student mix

BY PASHA HADIDI
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Once again, the time of year when high school seniors are frantically finishing college admissions applications and rounding up their supplementary materials has arrived. With a large number of application deadlines just over a month away, including Johns Hopkins, recommendations, transcripts, and essays are being compiled quickly.

Yet there is another factor in admissions that is often shyed away from by applicants and admissions officers: the contribution of each student to the economic, social, racial, or gender diversity of the campus.

Higher-tier universities are occasionally criticized for being overly geared towards the wealthy, or even "reverse-discriminating" by allowing certain amounts of minorities into each freshman class.

Whatever direction the University is leaning towards at present, there is certainly an indication that an applicant's background factors into admission decisions.

In recent years, the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor has been the subject of multiple law suits regarding their admissions policies towards minorities, fueling a debate that reached the Supreme Court. Ultimately, the university's law school won in court, while the undergraduate admissions process was deemed unfair.

Of the favorable ruling, former Justice Sandra Day O'Connor wrote, "student body diversity is a compelling state interest that can justify the use of race in university admissions."

The Johns Hopkins University Office of Admissions does uphold a traditional equal opportunity policy, disclosed on each year's application. This statement assures the prospective student against any of the possibility for potential discrimination during the admissions process.

It is part of the Office of Admissions policy that any particular portion of a prospective student's application may be used in part to make a decision.

Yet the official policy of Johns Hopkins is not to make a decision based solely on race, gender, financial status, quotas, or other separating aspects regarding a student's background.

Whether influenced by the aforementioned policy or not, the racial breakdown at Hopkins is heterogeneous, and diversity is present. According to recent statistics, the student body is 5% African-American,



Freshmen link arms during Playfair 2005, an Orientation program that brings together the incoming class.

22% Asian, 62% Caucasian, and 5% Hispanic, with less than 1% of students coming from Native American descent.

When asked what it was liked to be thrown into the diverse environment that Hopkins offers, freshman Jared Esopo replied, "It is a little shocking at first to observe the different cultures, representative of the outside world. Its definitely different."

Director of Admissions John Latting said, "Diversity in admissions is important because we are trying to assemble a community of people. At present, Hopkins does not look like the nation."

Latting also mentioned that the admissions process, "would love to see more international students."

Hopkins has a noticeable reputation in the world, easily recognized by the percentage of inter-

national students that are accepted each year, usually hovering around 5 percent.

In recent years, the distribution of students attending Johns Hopkins has been wide, with freshman arriving from all 50 states, and as many as 52 different countries.

The diversity of students' academic interests is also a subject of concern for the admissions office, with a growing interest focusing on attracting quality applicants in majors that do not necessarily deal with the sciences.

While men outnumber women at Hopkins, with statistics coming out to 55% and 45% respectively, gender unsurprisingly does not play an overwhelming role in the undergraduate admissions process.

Although the engineering disciplines hold a large majority of males, there has been gradual progression towards balancing the gender ratio, and counselors are recognizing the importance of not taking overt actions.

As far as the economic breakdown goes, the significant amount of undergraduate students come from middle class or upper class

backgrounds, with a noteworthy mix of enrolled students from lower class families.

Hopkins is known for its generous scholarships, among them the Hodson Trust Scholarship. A full 45% of undergraduate students receive some sort of financial aid, with about 72% of incoming freshman applying for financial aid. Of these applicants, 28% come from annual family incomes of less than \$45,000. 10% of incoming applicants reported incomes of \$45,000 to \$60,000 and 46% cited incomes of \$60,000 to \$120,000. 16% were above \$120,000.

Although a significant amount of students are from very educated and/or wealthy backgrounds, Latting said, "An applicant file with less-educated parents definitely stands out."

However, it is important to note that Hopkins follows a "need-blind" standard in admissions, meaning that admissions counselors making a decision not allowed access to any given applicant's financial information.

As at most colleges, these figures do not vary largely from class to class. As admissions are getting more and more competitive each year however, the one statistic that does vary, and improve, is grades, test scores, activities, and achievements. And that's certainly something that students, alumni, and the public can agree is a good thing.

Campus groups bolster awareness

BY LEAH BOURNE
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Diversity on campus is staggering — just about every ethnicity, religion and socioeconomic group seems to be represented. In keeping with this trend, student organizations certainly reflect student diversity. Whether you are Hindu, African American or attempting to deal with your sexuality, there is a student group that is trying to establish a community and to address your unique issues.

Groups also work together to bring about awareness. An example of an event where groups of many cultures come together to celebrate is CultureFest. This event took place in mid-November and has been occurring annually for the last 21 years. Students gather to perform and discuss issues of diversity.

Beyond CultureFest, there are events throughout the school year that are sponsored by various campus groups. For example, Awareness Days is hosted by DSAGA annually to discuss and promote gay rights.

Diwali Dhamaka, a Hindu celebration, draws crowds to the recreation center each fall. And the Black Student Union sponsors a month-long celebration during February for Black History Month.

Sophomore Chloe Huang, vice president of culture for the Chinese Student Association (CSA), said, "The purpose of the CSA is to promote and provide for the social and cultural needs of Chinese students attending Johns Hopkins University. Furthermore, CSA strives to promote community awareness of Asian issues."

She emphasized the group's desire to forge relationships with other student groups serving a similar purpose.

Huang said, "Everyone in CSA strives to bring new elements to Chinese culture by blending in with other cultural groups. For example, we've planned numerous events with other diversity groups, such as BSU (Black Student Union), SASH (South Asian Students and Hopkins), TASA (Taiwanese Student Association), just to list a few.

CSA serves to not only promote awareness of the Chinese but also bring people together, regardless of age, sex or ethnicity. Instead of isolating ourselves, all of our members participate in other on campus groups, and we share our thoughts with others and vice versa. Chinese culture itself is molded by various groups of people, and CSA by nature seeks not to polarize but embrace everyone."

Senior Abha Gupta, president of the Hindu Student Council, said, "One of the things I like best about Hopkins is the diverse student body. As a member of the Interfaith Council, I have the opportunity to work directly with students of different cultures, faiths and backgrounds. It is truly incredible how much we learn from each other at each of our meetings. While there is a lot of collaboration between student groups on campus, it would certainly be wonderful to see more of it."

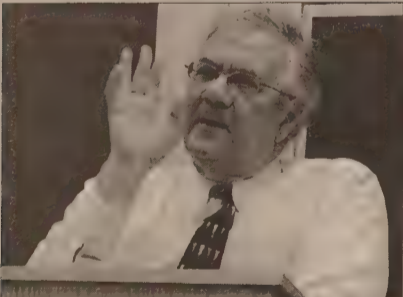
Huang shared this sentiment. She said, "There are indeed numerous diversity groups on this campus. I can come up with at least one student organization for every kind of culture I could think of. They do a good job raising awareness of and celebrating different cultures. However, I feel like there could be more



Sophomore Alex Cheung performs step with Lambda Phi Epsilon during CultureFest 2005.

interactions between groups. For example, I would really like to plan a CSA event in collaboration with OLE in the near future. I believe that if most, or better, all culture groups work together, we can bring on the utmost celebration of diversity at the Hopkins community."

CULTURAL EVENTS



MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER
Congressman Barney Frank spoke during 2005 Awareness Days hosted by DSAGA.

Open Hands Open Hearts

The Interfaith Council in addition to the campus ministries and several student faith based groups sponsor this event at the end of February. The Open Hands Open Hearts event, which features a series of programs, began four years ago with the aim of raising community awareness of religious diversity and faith backgrounds while providing a setting in which students could talk about differences in beliefs and understanding. See <http://www.jhu.edu/~chaplain/Open.shtml> for more information.

Awareness Days

The Awareness Days program, which takes place over an entire month, is sponsored by DSAGA and coincides with Spring Fair activities in late April. The program aims to increase awareness of LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) issues. In 2005 events included a lecture by Congressman Barney Frank, the Drag Queen Ball and a performance by

the openly gay comedian ANT.

BSU Fashion Show

An annual event that takes place in February members of the Black Student Union [BSU] host a fashion show. Members of the group can be seen strutting their stuff in designs from local stores. It is an event not to be missed. What other chance do

you have during the year to watch your peers take on the role of model.

Lashkara

The South Asian Society's spring cultural dinner and show occurs in mid-April and is an event that should not be missed. This full Indian dinner is an opportunity to eat some great food and to enjoy cultural Indian dance and music.



ROBIN SHAW/NEWS-LETTER
Sophomore Fornati Bedell models in the '04 BSU Fashion Show.

Gender ratio reveals shortcomings

Browsing the admissions Web site, one can observe statistics supporting diversity of students at Hopkins in terms of gender, origin and ethnicity. With a student body that is 56 percent male and 44 percent female, and a mix of students from all 50 states and 52 countries, to the eager applicant or sheltered student Hopkins may seem like a rosy mix of diverse people.

Enter a classroom or lecture hall, however, and you will quickly notice an unequal ratio of male to female professors. Of the 14 classes I have taken at Hopkins, female professors have taught two. For the mathematically challenged, that's about a 14 percent ratio of female to male professors.

In addition, it does not seem that much is being done to rectify the awareness of this issue. While a multitude of information and statistics is readily accessible online and in brochures regarding the diversity of students, no statistics appear in university documents regarding diversity of professors.

Student diversity is generally supported on campuses across the nation as an important aspect of university community as a result of a desire for cultural sharing, an understanding of differing opinions that can best

be explained by people of differing ethnicity and origin, and preparation for our increasingly global world.

These reasons are not exclusive to diversity of students; moreover, in an environment where students look to professors as intellectual leaders and role models, diversity should be equally sought after and esteemed. Therefore, for the same reasons that universities strive to maintain a diverse student body, diversity in professors should also be important.

"The situation is quite hypocritical, because the professors play a major role in representing what

Hopkins is all about, and this school is one of the more diverse ones," sophomore Serna Zhou said. "Professors influence our thoughts on a daily basis, but they are all within a narrow range of backgrounds, so it's difficult to promote all this diversity with that in mind"

In addition, for undergraduate females who are aspiring intellectuals, the proportionally low number of female professors suggests a discouraging message about the number of females in the profession leading some to believe that it is an uphill

battle to pursue this position as a female.

In a nation that has made such great strides since the beginning of 20th century for a woman in terms of suffrage, the workforce and overall gender equality, the disproportionate gender distribution of professors at Hopkins is unrepresentative of what I understand to be the University's goals in both educating its young intellectuals of both genders and providing a diverse environment in which to do this.

Students agree that gender diversity as represented by professors is important. Zhou, who is studying be-

havioral biology said, "Most of the classes I've taken are premed or science courses so I don't think it really matters which gender teaches those, since many of the science courses are neutral," Serna said. "But for humanities courses where the subjects taught become more open to different interpretations/opinions, then gender definitely makes a difference."

"Obviously only the most qualified should get teaching positions here, but I feel that some people might learn better with female teachers, who tend to have different teaching styles,"



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.THEHOYA.COM](http://www.thehoiya.com)
As a female professor, Alice McDermott is in the minority.

sophomore Margaret Paek said.

While some students have begun to recognize the shortcomings of the University in terms of its support of diversity, many have yet to notice this critical problem that is impeding the creation of a truly collegiate, diverse community.

If you are really concerned about diversity at Hopkins, take a second to reflect on how many female professors you have had instructing your classes. If you are bothered by this low number — which you should be — then do yourself and the rest of the community a favor and be an activist. While I'm not demanding that you stage a protest, it is important to voice your opinion on the subject in an effort to raise awareness and take a step in the direction of amending the problem.

LIZ AWEHRLY

GUEST COLUMNIST

FEATURES

Hunting for the ghosts among us

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1
The most recent of these programs was the ABC Family series "The Scariest Places on Earth," which explored places supposedly inhabited by spirits. Viewership was strong enough for an eight-hour marathon of episodes that dealt with all types of paranormal activity for a fascinated audience.
It's a field that intrigues and mystifies us all, yet is equally surrounded by skepticism and misconceptions. Many assume that paranormal research involves out-there new-agers who think they can see and talk to ghosts. But the field of paranormal research is wider than that, involving all types of people.
Baltimore has its own team of paranormal investigators, called the BSPR (Baltimore Society for Paranormal Research). Headed by Vince Wilson and Renee Hamer-Colianni, the BSPR is a division of the Maryland Paranormal Investigators Coalition. According to Wilson, the goal of the BSPR "is to bring a level of professionalism and research standards in Maryland and its surrounding area." Wilson and his colleagues are aware of skepticism of their work, but they're confident in what they do and are able to ignore non-believers. "Many of the hardcore skeptics are extremely biased as they do not believe in anything, be it ghosts or God," Wilson says. "Find a man that's been blind since birth and prove to him that stars are real."
Contrary to what skeptics may think, the act of ghost hunting isn't just going into a haunted house and waiting for spirits to show themselves, à la "The Haunting." All paranormal researchers and scientists use tons of different equipment to collect data.

However, Wilson is quick to point out that "nobody knows what a 'ghost' or 'spirit' is exactly, so there are no instruments that detect them directly."
The BSPR relies on a bevy of gear for their work, from the most traditional to the most advanced. Among the oldest are dowsing rods: These metal rods have been perhaps the tools most often used in ghost investigations across the years. The idea is to hold one rod loosely in each hand. If they cross, there's likely to be paranormal activity in the area. More advanced technology has added to the dowsing rod's effectiveness. The air ion counter does pretty much just what its name implies. Since spirits are thought to cause increases in electromagnetic activity, a surge in the number of positive ions is a possible ghost indicator.
In a similar vein, researchers also use electromagnetic field (EMF) detectors. EMF detectors measure changes in activity in an electrical field. Spirits can cause major disruptions in these fields. Some disruptions are so severe that flashlights, cameras and other battery-operated equipment can suddenly go dead in the presence of a strong spirit.
One of the main goals of ghost-hunting is to provide hard evidence of the existence of spirits. Enter the thermal scanner and thermal imaging scopes. Thermal scanners and cameras record changes in temperature in a room. With a thermal camera, you can actually see the "cold spots" that indicate the location of spirits.
More low-tech but equally important are microphones or tape record-



The Greenmount Cemetery is thought to be home to Baltimore ghosts.

ers. Parapsychologists often make audio recordings during a ghost investigation so they can enhance and play back the tapes later. Some researchers have recorded Electronic Voice Phenomena (EVP's), which they believe to be voices of ghosts.
The BSPR uses equipment such as this to search haunted locales all over the state, and if an average citizen has reason to believe they may have a ghost, the group will investigate private homes. Wilson said that there are certain hints that point toward a potential ghost. They include the feeling of being watched, hearing voices, a visible form and misplaced objects.
If you suspect you're sharing your space with an invisible friend, take Wilson's advice: "If you just want verification that you're not crazy, call us. If you want the ghost removed, we'll recommend some ideas." You can contact the BSPR through their Web site, <http://www.bsprnet.com>. Baltimore is

known as a hotspot for paranormal activity, much of which surrounds the legacy of Edgar Allen Poe, the preeminent horror writer, who spent his last days dying an agonizing death in Baltimore. The circumstances surrounding his death are unknown, with experts conjecturing anything from rabies to syphilis to alcohol poisoning. Whatever killed him, Poe's legacy is alive and well, with an annual Halloween vigil outside his West Baltimore grave in which a mysterious visitor lays roses and cognac on his plot. At his home nearby, visitors have reported seeing the spirit of a heavyset woman in gray, ceaselessly walking the stairs.
Poe is one of many of the active spirit world that calls Baltimore home.

How to wrap up the holiday season

It's my favorite time of year. There are plenty of decorations everywhere, egg nogging bread houses become appropriate desserts and big boxes from Gucci and Prada line the Christmas tree!
And while I love to get, get, get, we've all been reminded time and time again: "Tis better to give than to receive."
Whereas the past found some of us less generous souls muttering cynical "yeah, rights" under our breath, this year the maxim could not be more enticing — even to me!
The holidays have arrived.
Whether celebrating Christmas, Chanukah, Kwanzaa or what have you, there are shopping trips to be made and gifts to be bought.
But rather than doling out the tradition fare of gold-toed socks and printed boxers, take a cue from the Brits, as I have since my U.K. arrival, and treat your recipients to something different — something with a foreign flair.
It's well-known that London is at the pinnacle of trends and style, so here's my list of what the city's hippest residents will be snatching up and handing out this December.
At the moment, Londoners are purchasing fewer material gifts, opting instead for what's currently all

the rage — experience gifts.
These can be anything from gift certificates to restaurants to plane tickets for a weekend in Ibiza. Claridges, one of the city's premier hotels, is even offering a holiday package, where the hard-to-please recipient can choose to redeem his or her gift card in the form of an afternoon tea, a spa treatment or fine dining.
The experience gift is perhaps the most delightful of the season, as it not only provides a unique opportunity to whomever it's bestowed upon, but also increases the likelihood that your present won't be the re-gifted one.
In addition to restaurants and spas, other ideas include cooking lessons, wine tasting classes and a day spent boutique-ing with a personal shopper.
My favorite of all, however, is "a night of celebrity," which includes a chauffeured Maybach, paparazzi and bodyguards to accompany you and your "entourage" for an evening on the town. With the experience gift, anything is possible — the more creative or over-the-top, the better.
Sometimes, though, budget constraints can get in the way of making dream reality. Second to the aforementioned experience gifts, the English are abuzz over scent-sensation Jo Malone.
CONTINUED ON PAGE B4



CARTER CRAMER
HOP COUTURE



Spirits of children are reportedly among the most active of all Baltimore's netherworld.

Lessons too hard to swallow

Recently, when I tried to explain to a friend about a "party" I was going to, the only way I could think of describing it was as something close to a Tupperware party for sex toys. A lot of my friends who were also going were excited not because they were necessarily going to see some new ways to spice up their sex lives, but because they thought they were going to be getting some instruction in the sexual art that had thus far been all trial and error: the blow job.
Unfortunately, the lessons were not forthcoming, and although people left the party with a few new toys, they were still just as hazy about the basic maneuvers necessary to put them to good use.
My friends were not satisfied with just looking at their new toys, and after a few post-"Pleasure Party" drinks they took matters into their own hands, pooling their knowledge and using a vodka bottle for nothing close to the manufacturer's intended purpose.
Two years ago I wrote an article that dealt directly with the lessons being given that night with vodka bottle in hand — and mouth. The disappointment a lot of friends felt when they didn't get the lessons they came to the "Pleasure Party" for made me think that perhaps it was time to revisit the initial question, "What exactly is the secret to a good blow job? Does it even exist?"
First to quickly go over the basics. To be good at blow jobs, you actually have to want to be there. At head-to-groin level, you're getting more intimate than a good number of sexual positions. For example, I recently ended up, quite unwillingly, refereeing an argument between a friend and her boyfriend. The topic: she didn't give head, he thought she was being selfish. People sometimes forget oral sex is a gift. It's not a natural thing for most people to do — the human race would easily continue without it.
In this case, the boyfriend should not have been so insistent — first, he killed all chance of making "never" into "just not tonight."

Also, no one is going to be good at giving head if he or she is miserable, and I hope no one would enjoy it if they knew the person worshipping at the altar only wanted to gag.
The second amateur mistake many people make surfaced from the bottle demo. Unfortunately, all too often people see head as the end of the evening. Well, if you go all the way through, yes, it will at least be the end of the round. But the key is making it the means to a great ending, and not necessarily the end in and of itself. Using oral only as a warm-up lets girls who don't even want to think of the question "spit or swallow" off the hook.
The process starts way before any lips move south of the border. Wanting sex in any form is half the fun. So the question, then, is how do you make someone want to get a blow job? One way is to play out a fantasy. Fingers are extremely phallic objects. When there's a break in the action, grab either of his hands and, starting in the middle of the palm, put pressure on the skin with the pad of your thumb. Work outward in a slow circular motion to either the base of the index finger or pinky. Advice from one guy friend on this point: girls are always afraid to be a little rough. Although you shouldn't leave marks, remember that guys can take a lot more than most girls give.
Once at the right digit, take it between your thumb and your index finger and while still keeping pressure make an elongated twisting motion ending the twist at the top of the finger. Try just doing this a time or two before you get the rhythm. At this point, it's time to use your mouth. Take the whole thumb into your mouth and twist as you move up to the head — um, tip — of the finger where, of course, you might want to give an extra twist or two. Then move on to the next finger. A friend described it as riding a roller coaster: build tension and ride it up, then move more forcefully and quickly down. Then start again.
When you're both ready, let a free hand get a lay of the land — nothing that will distract from your hand massage, but make sure his thoughts are

free to wander with your hand.
Hands are also key when you finally break down and take on larger organs. A friend commented after my last blow job article, "Next time you take something apart, try unscrewing it by using just your lips and moving your head. Doesn't work at all, eh?" The same rule applies for the blow job.
The last article talked about the "OK" sign that should stay at the bottom of his 21st digit to keep things tight, but there are other uses for your ten free fingers. First, keeping your hand as a tube and an extension of your mouth will relieve some of the oral workload. That type of position can also be used to give what a friend calls the "Indian Burn" — but in that good way.
For those who missed it in the school yard, an "Indian Burn" is the same motion as ringing out a towel; grab the object with both hands and twist in the opposite direction. The non-school yard version is done with less force and lubricated hands but it's the same motion. Do it with your hands while your mouth is still working up top, starting slow and building pressure and speed.
What good head comes down to though — I know this'll be hard for a lot of guys especially — is communication. If you've gotten a girl to kindly give up last call for you, you might as well help her make it good, no? No one's asking for direction, but if you just lay there silently you're not exactly going to get what you want either. It's like elections; you only get to complain afterwards if you participated in the process by making your voice heard. If you just lie there silently in bed and hope she figures out that you like things differently than her ex-boyfriend (or, very easily at Hopkins, current boyfriend) then you're not going to be particularly happy with the outcome. In addition, any noise of appreciation (or something that says a guy's even awake), would check a lot of the girl's anxiety.
Although there was some great knowledge shared at the "Pleasure Party" ("Don't willingly tea bag yourself" emerged as a key piece of advice) it was still unfortunate that so many girls still had questions they needed to get out. Although I'm sure that there are lines of people willing to give lessons, hopefully this article will move people past the basics, let them be a bit more confident and spare some other alcohol bottle the same sexual harassment.



JESS BEATON
ORGASMIC
CHEMISTRY

HOT AT HOPKINS

Final exams and papers lead your peers to pull all-nighters, but you don't let work disrupt your beauty sleep. Share your bright-eyed self with us. E-mail: features@jhunewsletter.com



Name: Reuben Brewer
Year: 2006
Major: Mechanical Engineer
Hometown: Sweet Briar, Va.

For most, the name Reuben brings visions of either a corned beef-filled sandwich or a giant teddy bear of an American Idol winner. Well, after reading about this week's beefcake of a Mechanical Engineer, those other Reubens will be replaced by the one and only Reuben Brewer.
His self-descriptions made him seem to be quite the, uh, animal. And this is just referring to physical stuff, not a savage personality. He claims that his best quality is that "my toes are webbed, allowing me to swim faster than even Zulotron, King of the Flying Water Fowl." Look out, Reuben will breaststroke his way to your heart.
Going along with the aquatic theme, Reuben said his worst characteristic is that "I have a second row of teeth, much like sharks."



Name: Kiren Khanduja
Year: 2007
Major: Chemical Engineering
Hometown: Mahwah, N.J.

The next time you're chugging the Natty Boh at a party, don't be surprised if a sexy lady walks up to you and says: "Is that a keg in your pocket? Because I'd sure like to tap that ass." That seductress will be none other than Kiren Khanduja, who, like any good engineer, estimates that this line works 60 percent of the time.
In the time she doesn't spend using that fantastic keg line, Kiren is a "soulful guitar goddess, professional hookah smoker and golfer." So, boys, you'd better know how to pluck her strings in all the right ways.
Once she spots someone with her self-described "exotic eyes," Kiren's characteristic of impatience comes out full force. "I get what I want, when I want it." Ooh, how saucy.
Perhaps this explains why this hottie says she waits 24 hours after a date before trying to score with the lucky boy.
And what kind of date does this babelicious Jersey girl desire? "Any outdoor concert, with alcohol," she said. Just as long as it doesn't involve a repeat of her most embarrassing dating experience, when she went through an entire date with her pants unzipped and didn't know it. Guess that made the 24 hour rule a little bit easier.
So boys, if you have sexy lips, a tight ass, confidence and a big wallet (the last of which she said is a joke), it's time to take a swing and get a hole in one with this golfing gal.

FEATURES

Experiential gifts

are the way to go

From Hopkins to the corridors of power

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B3

While she's also adored Stateside, London is infatuated with her unique creations. From Wild Fig and Cassis perfume to Amber Mint candles, a Jo Malone gift is a sure-fire hit.

If experiences sound a bit too expensive and fragrances aren't your thing, opt for some of the must-haves on the London trend and style circuit.

For the women on your list, Chanel-chic Brits Kate Moss and Elizabeth Hurley, both of whom are likely to have shearling, the season's must-have material, on their holiday wish lists.

Whether you go for a jacket lined with the soft fur or a sweater knitted from it, you're sure to receive many thanks.

For the men willing to be trendsetters, buy them waistcoats — preferably vintage. They're smart, chic and fun, and can be worn dressy or casual depending on the under-shirt.

Perhaps even include a picture of Jude Law with the gift, the celeb most likely to rock the waistcoat.

For the brainiac on your list, buy online the pastime Londoners are currently infatuated with — sudoku.

It's a combination number game and puzzle in the form of a small pad of paper. Challenging, fun and portable, it can keep its recipient occupied for hours.

For the friend or family member who's jet-setting to the tropics this holiday, stock him or her up with the chicest travel look of the season, Americana.

Inspired by American sportswear from the 80s, this look is fresh, classy and oh-so-country club. Think Lily Pulitzer prints, Bermuda shorts and wicker baskets.

And, of course, for the lush on the list (everyone's got to have one), what better gift than French champagne label Veuve Cliquot's "bucket of joy?"

It's an attractive yellow bucket



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.CALDOABBRACCIO.COM](http://www.caldoabbraccio.com)
Shearling jackets make classy presents.

filled with four mini bottles of champagne, straws and "sippy tops." What more could a wino want?

If you're still unsure about what to get your friends and family this holiday season, and material and experience gifts seem a tad impersonal, take a cue from the person I consider the real Queen of England — Victoria Beckham.

Shocking as it may seem, Mrs. B has proclaimed to numerous British tabloids that, rather than sharing her love of Dior shades and Blahnik footwear this Christmas, she'll be cooking for those on her list.

While I personally think it's a crock (Dolce doesn't make kitchenware yet), the idea is admirable nonetheless.

Everyone loves good food, and homemade means time, care and thoughtfulness went into the preparation.

Not everyone is a cook, however, and, if your food is going to be sub-par, consider instead looking up some of the other, equally special gifts.

So steer clear of the socks and underwear aisle this December and try an imaginative — perhaps British — approach to holiday shopping.

BY JAMES FREEDMAN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

"When I was a resident, I wanted to go to a nice community hospital and make as much money as I could — and then I caught the academic bug," said Eric Noji, a graduate of the Bloomberg School of Public Health. As a young doctor with local aspirations, Noji had little idea that his career would ultimately take him in unexpected directions.

"I really had no idea that I was going to be an academic physician, and even less that I would be in a new specialty called disaster medicine, because it did not exist when I was training in Chicago, let alone when I was an undergraduate," he added.

Noji was once an attending emergency physician at Johns Hopkins Hospital before leaving the emergency room to work in the new field of disaster medicine. His time at Hopkins prepared him for his pivotal role in what was then a relatively new field.

"I started the first disaster program and started off small, just with natural disasters, and we worked with Hurricane Andrew and the earthquake in Northridge, floods in Missouri," he said. "And then we branched out to industrial disasters — chemical spills, radiation disasters like Chernobyl and Three Mile Island."

"We started to professionalize the response to what we call forcibly displaced populations like we're seeing in Darfur and the Sudan now, civilian populations forced to move by civil war or ethnic and religious fighting, like in Indonesia or the Balkans. I worked in Bosnia, Croatia, Kosovo and Serbia."

Robert Shesser, who studied at the School of Public Health with Noji and is now chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine at George Washington University, believed that Noji's transition to disaster medicine was "a natural progression."

"As a physician, you're trying to take care of individuals," said Shesser. "In the [School of Public Health], you're looking at health matters on a population basis, so it was a natural progression for Eric to take the skills that he learned in his medical training, and then the skills that he learned at the public health school and apply them on a national and international basis."

Before the Sept. 11 attacks, Noji was associate director for Bio-Emergency Preparedness and Response at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, Ga. After the attacks, his job changed significantly.

"My job at first was coordinating the federal response to the World Trade Center attacks," he said, "and I got transferred to the White House and worked as a consultant on anthrax releases; and then came the invasion of Afghanistan."

"There was a lot of concern about chemical and biological weapons being made by the Taliban, so I stayed in the White House. I helped develop the new Department of Homeland Security."

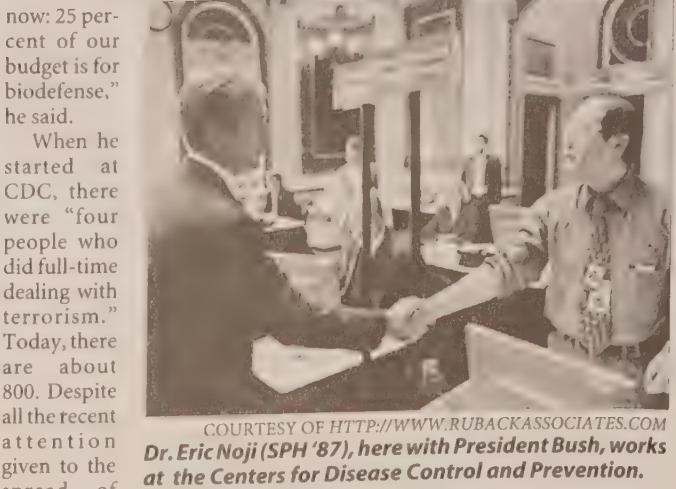
Despite his professional knowledge, Noji always felt the pressures associated with his work. "When I was in the War Room, it was nerve-racking," he said.

He gave briefings "three times a week, and my job was to take reports from the military and CDC on anthrax, and it would be a pile of paper up to the ceiling, and people at a high level in the White House like Andy Card or Condoleezza Rice or Vice President Cheney would not read anything longer than three-quarters of a page. It was a good experience taking a lot of information and summarizing it and boiling it down to one page."

"I always say, [it's about] getting the right information to the right people at the right time and at the right place, and that's been my philosophy," he added.

Noji's job description is not all that changed at CDC after 9/11.

"The budget at CDC is terrorism



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.RUBACKASSOCIATES.COM](http://www.rubackassociates.com)
Dr. Eric Noji (SPH '87), here with President Bush, works at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

now: 25 percent of our budget is for biodefense," he said.

When he started at CDC, there were "four people who did full-time dealing with terrorism." Today, there are about 800. Despite all the recent attention given to the spread of global terrorism, Noji still feels that bioterrorism is not likely.

"The greatest threat is still going to be naturally occurring pandemics of disease," he said. "Bioterrorism, I would say, is what they call low probability, high consequence. Unlikely to happen, but the reason why we're spending so much money and are so concerned is that if it does happen, it would be catastrophic. But every year, we know we're going to have hurricanes, we know we're going to have outbreaks of diseases — and for terrorism, the majority is still going to be suicide attacks and bomb attacks."

Because CDC works with so many agencies dealing with highly complex and critical issues, Noji is now senior policy advisor for health and national security for CDC in Washington, D.C.

"Basically, my job is to make sure that CDC works well with Congress, the White House, military, and that there's no gaps that no one is covering," he said. "I work with Congress to make sure that CDC is assured of continued funding in our budget to maintain all of our counter-terrorism programs."

"I think the problem now is there's so much talent and expertise, but [it's] spread out all over the place."

When asked what best prepared him for his current job, Noji points to his experience at Hopkins.

"When I went to Hopkins, [I] got introduced into a whole new world — an exponentially greater type of disaster than I was used to — which were basically transportation disasters," he said.

"I learned a lot, and the students at Hopkins were from all over the world and now, goodness, I have classmates who are ministers of health and heads of World Health Organization offices all over the world."

"Having gone to Hopkins really helped my disaster career by having personal relations with my classmates. There's nothing that helps more in a disaster than having trust and knowing people you work with," he added.

Noji has also become the government's de facto pointman on many matters relating to bioterrorism. He has headlined conferences dealing with large-scale terrorism everywhere from major universities to the United States Navy. The Center for Excellence in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance even awards an annual Eric K. Noji Excellence in Teaching Award.

Shesser still remembers his classmate and is impressed, but not surprised, by his progress.

"We've only crossed paths a few times in the last couple of years," said Shesser, "but certainly he's done great things for emergency medicine, and he's been a real leader in the field."

The Student Activities Commission

*cordially invites you to attend
the Winter General Assembly Meeting
held on Monday, December 5th, 2005
at 6:00 PM in the Glass Pavilion*

A light dinner will be provided for your enjoyment.

*Elections for the positions of Performing Arts Liaison
and Special Interest Liaison will be held.
Nominations can be emailed to SACexec@jhu.edu*

*Assistant Liaisons are now being recruited in the
following categories:
- Sports - Lana Jo Hill
- Cultural - Valentina Rodriguez*

*If interested, please contact either of the above Liaisons at
SACexec@jhu.edu*

Autumn brings new Parisian style

Savored traditions in holiday feasting

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B1

An equally intriguing trend is the come-back of the black leggings. While relegated to bad 80's reunion nights in the United States, they have found a new audience across the pond in Paris. While these black footless tights could easily recall dancer's workout ensembles, French women use them to accompany light denim mini-skirts and sometimes dresses. By keeping the legs warm, they extend the life of the mini-skirt or the summer dress into the colder autumn months. What was once cast aside as the weather turned can now be worn longer and in a variety of outfits.

Even Parisians are not above wearing jeans, and they are all too common during the colder days of autumn. Common casual attire on the streets of the city includes fitted jeans tucked into leather knee-high and cowboy boots. These are often paired with fitted olive military jackets and delicate lace blouses for contrast. The juxtaposition of the feminine stand-by with masculine outerwear is the ultimate in boy-meets-girl fashion.

Another import from America graces the streets of Paris. Alongside black tights and tight jeans, Converse Chuck Taylor high tops meet straight leg jeans for a more collegiate look. The tangible punk influence of this style hearkens back to the days when The Sex Pistols roamed Europe, trashing hotel rooms and enlivening the continent, but also add a touch of American college fashion to a city renowned for its own unique, ahead-of-the-trends styles.

For all the inroads that American fashion has had on the French market, there is still a certain *j'en sais quoi* associated with their style. With such memorable fashion figures as Coco Chanel, Christian Lacroix, Carine Roitfeld and Yves Saint Laurent, the French look is distinctive and timeless. French fashion absorbs the best of international fashion with its own to create a melange of unique style.

Even as the fashions change alongside the seasons in the cafes and restaurants of Paris, the inimitable and international French fashion will always be a cut above.



PHOTOS BY SHANE JUDITH ROSEN-GOULD/NEWS-LETTER

(Clockwise from the top left) Two 12- and 13-year-old girls show off the fitted jeans and military jackets that are a Paris fall presence; a Frenchwoman demonstrates the ethnic patterned skirt popular in the fall; a black or blue women's blazer adds a sophisticated touch; layers are ever popular for chillier weather; a skirt paired with jacket, jewelry, and handbag exemplifies casual, street-chic.

With memories of glistening roasted fowl and mashed potatoes still fresh in our minds, there's no doubt that the holiday feasting season is upon us. This is the time of year when families awkwardly get together, stuff their pie holes with pounds of meat, starch and, appropriately, pie, while slowly getting buzzed off various ethanol beverages — anything to make the whole experience a little less exhausting.

Take, for example, cranberry sauce. I prefer the gelatinous kind that comes out shaped like a wiggly, slimy, aluminum can. Its name suggests sort of "sauce," but I still don't know what to put it on and no one has ever really suggested to me a better way than just cutting off nice geometric slabs with the side of my fork. The kind with actual cranberries strikes me as a more useful sauce in the conventional sense of the word, but it's simply less fun.

Bias aside, it is an item like cranberry sauce that makes holiday meals something special and thus fitting eats for those special days.

There must be some of that proverbial rhyme and reason to eating a certain thing on a certain day. For Thanksgiving we traditional Americans eat food that we assume the Pilgrims ate for their big "Thank Providence" feast — turkey because it's such an American bird (Ben Franklin actually suggested it be our national bird), yams and corn (or maize) thanks to the Native American influence, and basically everything else that Massachusetts can muster up in November.

Though most of the populace celebrating the holiday isn't living in or even from New England, we all still endeavor to recreate the regional, and presumably historical, fare. From my perspective, this is a great thing to do because it embellishes the food with intellectual and sentimental importance.

In fact, it's so fantastic that I think more food-based holidays should be established in American society or at least some special foods, be incorporated into holidays we already celebrate.

Here are a few of my suggestions:

New Year's Eve — Sure, there's the champagne and lobster, but we need to more perfectly capture the spirit of time passing with our food. I recommend we all eat 1,000-Year-Old Eggs, the figuratively named Chinese delicacy that has gained notoriety by being featured on programs such as *Fear Factor*.

Easter — Rabbit anyone?

Independence Day — Nothing shows the British how much they lost more than eating corn dogs — a quintessential example of American ingenuity and excessiveness.

Labor Day — Grilling can be a great deal of fun, but it can also become a hassle, especially when you are dealing with large groups of hungry, beer guzzling guests. Celebrate not working while encouraging the labor market by getting takeout. Chinese food would be particularly surreal and is thus highly recommended.

Halloween — Goulash. Get it? Imagine how much better our society would be if we managed to tie particular types of food to particular holidays like we do with Thanksgiving, which is probably America's one true "Food Holiday." Think about that for your next holiday feast.



JUSTIN OREN
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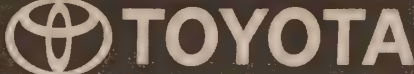
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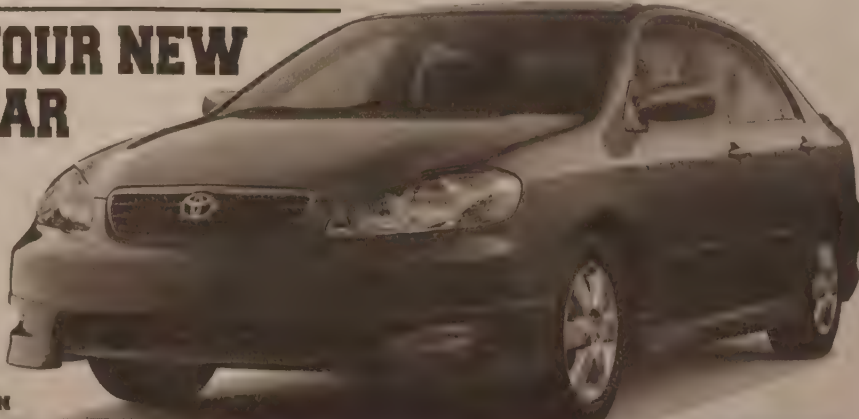
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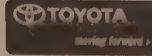
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Kelley's Shriver concert endearing

BY ASHLEY WIETSMA
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Flashes of magenta, turquoise and violet were projected against the walls of Shriver Hall. Guitars, keyboards and drums floated out of the fog-filled stage. Smart lights twirled on their pivots on the ceiling as people slowly filtered in. Hopkins was fully prepared to rock out with a new artist, Josh Kelley.

Presented by the Hopkins Organization of Programming, HOP, this was the first large-scale concert at Hopkins this year. A mixture of excitement and exhaustion could be found in the faces of HOP students who spent the day in Shriver from 9 a.m. to curtain call at 9 p.m. The concert was extremely well organized. Everything from advertisement and ticketing to food and merchandise sales was planned out.

No one was more excited than junior Alessandra Wood, co-chair of HOP. As a two-year veteran, this is her first year leading the group. Acting as director, producer, advertising manager and casting director all in one, Wood had reason to be biting her nails and tearing out her hair. Yet she had a big grin and was glowing with anticipation. She was ready to see her first project come to life.

For such a well-coordinated event, the turnout was rather disappointing. By the time Josh Kelley came on stage, two hours after the doors opened, there were maybe 400 people, barely filling half of Shriver's main level. Wood said that they fell short of their target of 500 to 600 people, but the event wasn't meant to be profitable. The goal of HOP is not to increase revenue because "we always come out short," she said, but "to provide entertainment." Slim Gambill, the lead guitarist of Josh Kelley's band, said it was an OK turnout, but the crowd was responsive and upbeat. Though most students stayed in that bitterly cold Friday, those who did venture out to the concert were ready for a great time. Both Kelley's band and the opening band, Hotspur, commented on the awkwardness of performing in Shriver; the fixed seats distanced from the stage weren't appropriate for a rock concert.

A local band from College Park, Md., Hotspur had approached last year's Spring Fair committee. They were referred to HOP, and Wood contacted them to perform as Kelley's opener. Kicking off the concert, Hotspur brought head-banging energy and quality music. Neither trashy pop punk nor mellow



ALLIE BERKEN/NEWS-LETTER

Josh Kelley performed songs from his new album *Almost Honest* in Shriver Auditorium on November 19.

alternative, they played genuine rock 'n' roll. Comprised of four University of Maryland graduates, they performed their first show only last April at the 9:30 Club.

The role of an opener is never easy; it's simply a time killer that most people don't even pay attention to. Hopkins may not have fully appreciated Hotspur for that reason, but that didn't stop them from giving a great performance. Their sound was upbeat and catchy. The lyrics weren't especially moving, but the quality of their music was impressive. Keyboardist David Trichter said that their lead singer and guitarist, Joe Mach, writes "95 percent of the lyrics, but the music is a group effort." Songs like "Her Majesty" and "If You Knew," masterfully incorporated classical piano into the rock sound. In every song, Mach and Trichter had outstanding vocals. Their ending song, the climax of their performance, "She's Got to Go" perfectly demonstrated their exciting sound. Be sure to listen to that and other songs on hotspurmusic.com and keep the lookout for Hotspur in the Baltimore area: It's definitely a show worth seeing.

On campus, the common response to most questions about Josh Kelley was "Who's that?" Though most don't recognize his name, it clicks when you hear "Only You" and "Amazing," his two radio hits. That was exactly what HOP was looking for — an up-and-coming artist with some name recognition. The majority of the crowd was al-

ready Kelley groupies, singing and dancing along to the music. Hopkins was his second to last stop on a seven-week-long tour that includes performances with Joss Stone, Maroon 5, Duran Duran and Tonic.

The lights dimmed in Shriver and Kelley's four-piece band, The Weight, appeared. They played the opening chords to "Hard Times Happen" (from his newest album, *Almost Honest*) and the man himself appeared in a navy blazer, gray T-shirt and Roo's. The sound was mellow in comparison with Hotspur's, but still the crowd clustered around the stage to dance. Kelley may call his music bluegrass, but it's more rock with hints of country, blues and even some pop. At first glance, the band seemed an uncoordinated mess with no unifying look. From the hip-hop, trucker hat sportin' drummer to the bearded hippie pianist, they all seemed too different. But after listening and observing their attitudes, it was easy to see how well they fit together. As Slim, the lead guitarist and most talented performing musician, said, "We're all buddies." The quality of their sound as a band can only be attributed to their strong dynamics.

Kelley was relaxed and down to earth on stage. Songs like "Small Town Boy," from his first album, and "Didn't Hear That From Me" are mellow and soothing. A diverse musician, Kelley switched between acoustic guitar, drums and piano while belting out soft, heart-melting vocals.

The immaturity of his talents can

be seen in his lyrics, though. Many of his songs, including "Home To Me" and "Lover Come Up" were written as a college student. He sings of love, relationships and heartache. But you can't blame him, since he is only 25. The lyrics of "Almost Honest" were romantic to the point of tears, while "Love is Breaking My Heart" was too cliché. The lack of diversity in his songs was his only weak point, but as he ages and experiences more of life, that will change.

What Kelley lacked in his written talent, he made up for in his instrumental organization. He has a natural ability for orchestrating. Spontaneously deciding to experiment with an unrehearsed song, Kelley told each member exactly what he wanted. "I want a clean sound with little nibbles," he told Slim, "and Dave [the pianist] stabs every now and then." The song came together beautifully, illustrating the talent of each musician and Kelley's ability to perfectly envision the desired sound.

It's difficult to say whether or not Josh Kelley and his L.A.-based band will make it big in the competitive and exclusive music industry. The Weight was personable and friendly, introducing themselves to everyone in the lobby of Shriver, a true sign of a band that wants to succeed. Kelley has a clean, appealing look and sound. Kelley and The Weight may not be the best-looking or most talented band today, but they have personality, charm and ambition.

Bricuth weaves a smart epic poem

As Long As It's Big
John Bricuth
Johns Hopkins
University Press
232 Pages
October 15, 2005

BY HEATHER BARBAKOFF
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

The death of a child is always heart-wrenching, but when it is told from a mother's point of view during her tenure in divorce court, it becomes all the more powerful. So begins John Bricuth's latest literary endeavor, *As Long As It's Big*, a tale so cleverly written that the reader easily forgets that he or she is reading narrative poetry. Bricuth has contrived a storyline so engrossing that it transcends prose and poetry to become a reading adventure.

Also known as Hopkins' own Professor John Irwin, Bricuth embarks with the reader on an adventure through the lives of Mr. and Mrs. Fish, a couple who, after the suicide of their son, are on the cusp of divorce. Bricuth's language handles the delicate matters of marriage and divorce with enough care to portray the emotional gravity such a topic deserves, while simultaneously infusing the narrative with enough humor to glide the reader through his curvy plotline.

The narrative is peppered with madcap characters: an anti-divorce judge, feuding lawyers Messrs. Fox and Bird, bumbling bailiffs and a violent, overprotective elder sister. The reader becomes completely submerged in Bricuth's alternative world. The feeling that the characters act on their own, independently of the reader is present; as if they are going to tell their stories, have their reactions and feelings regardless of the reader's presence. Each character has a personal agenda, and *As Long As It's Big*'s protagonists won't stop until they have accomplished their goals. This novel isn't something that happened — it is something happening as it is read, something that will continue to happen, with or without you. If I were you, I'd stick around.



Divided into seven parts grouped into "Allegro," "Largo" and "Presto," Bricuth treats his novel as a musical composition; the story's pacing matches its tempo demarcations. "Allegro" — fast, upbeat and a flurry of activity — thrusts the reader straight into the book's action with the judge's complaint of the adjacent hallway's brouhaha.

It later focuses mainly on the lawyers' tumultuous relations with one another and the judge. The increasingly lyric "Largo" portrays a defeated Mrs. Fish's tale of the loss of her son, family and marriage, while Mr. Fish counters with a desperate plea to his wife. "Presto" resolves the story's many loose ends; the conflict over the Fishes' marriage, as well as Mr. Fox's anger at having been beaten up by Mrs. Fish's older sister, Gert.

The beauty of *As Long As It's Big* rests not only in the believability of the Fishes' predicament or the reader's sympathy but in the excellence of Bricuth's writing. The sonority of the character's dialogue coupled with the poetic meter becomes chant-like, driving the reader forward, occasionally infusing the narrative with delicious descriptions of ordinary things explained so as to make them extraordinary: "It's funny judge, / About possessions, objects stained for decades with/ Dumb feelings" reads one notable passage.

While the thought of reading a novel told entirely in poetry fills most with dread, it is the poetry narrative of *As Long As It's Big* that draws in and surrounds the reader with the story's events.

Serious showcase mildly pleasing

Witness Theater offers a sophisticated but flawed night of drama

BY PATRICK MEANEY
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Witness Theater's second showcase of the semester had little of the first's light-heartedness. The melancholy was pumping from the start and did not relent until the last play. Some of the audience members were undoubtedly put off by this change of pace.

Needless to say, it took a bravely smiling crowd to laugh down some of the black humor that waxed throughout the show. But most found something to enjoy in the overriding moroseness.

I blame the evening's suffering

entirely on sophomores Mitch Frank and Shaun Gould, a pair of unabashed bohemians and sorrow-junkies who wrote three of the four plays. Junior Lydia Fayal brought some relief with her single entry.

One of Frank's plays started the show and set the pattern for the night. *You Need a Haircut*, directed by freshman Alena Geffner-Mihlsten, starts lightly enough; Laura (played by freshman Aparna Desai) waits for Mike (played by Tom Hintze, also a freshman) to get out of the shower and holds his pants hostage in order to force him into an unwanted haircut. Even if

some of the lines are a bit unnatural or implausible, the scene's uncanny awkwardness is enough to keep the audience interested.

The snappy dialogue comes with a directness that subtly belied the play's real tension, something that is not exactly resolved. After the pretense of a haircut wears thin, Laura confesses her feelings to Mike, who rejects her outright. Frank gives almost no time for denouement, and the play leaves one with a vague feeling of hopelessness.

For the audience, lately tuned to a love-story wrap-up, the end of the play is a bit difficult to swallow. It is unusual for stories to close with such an abrupt surfacing of truth; after such a turn it seems natural for the play to go into another act where the jealous party will seek revenge or take a new approach to the same problem. But since the audience knows it is a one act, the end is clear-cut, uncomfortable and devoid of sentiment.

The following play, Shaun Gould's *Steve and Alex*, directed by Mitch Frank with junior Michael Cox as Steve, picks up on this note of dissonance. The play is simply a slowly unfolding personal monologue. Steve is the living twin of Alex, two brothers who grew up under a *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* crisis of identity, made worse by an indiscriminate, alcoholic father.

The show might have smacked of something romantic had it been a full-fledged confession from one character to another, a therapy of sorts. But in Gould's framework, the narrator has no answers, no sympathy, nowhere new to turn. The final episode of Steve trying to get beat up by a retarded man delves into a moment of novel self-



MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

Freshmen Zoe Bell and her sister, Esther Bell, perform in *Cocktails in Connecticut*, written by Lydia Fayal.

realization, but the audience is by no means left with a happy ending.

Following the intermission came Frank's second play *Encyclopedia*, directed by junior Sofija Korac and featuring Gould as the sole actor. Of the three sad plays, this one goes deepest into the themes of loneliness, detachment and darkness.

Gould plays a man living alone with an encyclopedic knowledge of cereal developers and temporomandibular joint disorder (when your jaw pops while you chew), as well as a terminal illness.

This play follows Frank's pattern of starting with something that could go either way — we could be in for a delightful change of luck, or go the other way and discover something entirely disconcerting — and then going for the latter without time for reflection or acceptance.

Encyclopedia is superior to its predecessors because of the power it draws from action. As a terminally ill man, Gould does everything from masturbating to headstands with an air that is at once bored, tragic and even slightly menacing. The audience laughs at the dry wit early on; it laughs a little less at the ironic lament of solitude; it laughs not at all when the man slips into talking about being terminally ill. Perhaps the first two plays put the audience in the proper mood for this climax of lonely terror, but I would say it stands alone and above.

The final play, *Cocktails in Connecticut* by Lydia Fayal, directed by junior Jason Maur, finally brings some really laughable humor to the stage. The play starts with a bit of an inversion from the first play's set-up — Louise (played

by freshman Esther Bell), the eldest daughter of a wealthy upper-crust Connecticut family, reclines alone in just a bathing suit and quickly begins bickering with her brother Hunter (played by sophomore Peter Lipman) and flirting with his Spaniard friend Roberto (played by sophomore Paxson Trautman).

Following the first scene, the play becomes a competition between mother and daughter in trying to out-slut each other for a rich stock-trader. The competition is made even more intense by the fact that the mother is played by freshman Zoe Bell, Esther Bell's sister.

Things get more and more ludicrous, and the play ends with comic disappointments all around and Peter Lipman running drunkenly into the audience shouting to various ladies in attendance.



MARK MEHLINGER/NEWS-LETTER

Junior Michael Cox plays Steve, in *Steve and Alex* by Shaun Gould.

Goblet adds to Potter series magic

BY CHRISTINE HIGGINS
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Riding on the coattails of *Half Blood Prince* euphoria, the most recent cinematic installment of the Harry Potter saga, *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*, has been receiving fan-hype since July. Fortunately for director Mike Newell, *Goblet of Fire* lives up to the magic and majesty of J.K. Rowling's fourth novel.

The fourth book shocked readers with its tremendous length when it was released in 2001, which makes this latest blockbuster all that more impressive. Not only does the movie rival the book's action-packed plot, but it also contains the powerful and dark undertones that lead to Lord Voldemort's rising (literally) from grave — something that has even *The New York Times* raving that Ralph Fiennes' Voldemort, "may be the greatest screen performance ever delivered without the benefit of a nose." With 734 pages, the epic novel is not one that can easily be transposed into a two and half hour movie. Luckily, the linear events of the TriWizard Tournament aid the cinematic structure. Yet, only Newell can be credited for the accuracy and surgical detail given to convolved, morbid back-drop.

The movie begins with Harry's prophetic dream of Lord Voldemort plotting his demise and is quickly launched into the Quidditch World Cup, where star seeker and future Drumstrang champion Viktor Krum (Stanislav Ianevski) is introduced. During the festivities after Ireland's victory, Death Eaters invade the compound and a mysteri-

ous man (later exposed as Barty Crouch Jr. [David Tennant], son of Bartemous Crouch, Head of the Department of International Magical Cooperation) casts the Dark Mark. The entire movie is fast-forwarded to the Welcome Feast at Hogwarts, where Dumbledore (Michael Gambon) explains to an elated student body that Hogwarts, Drumstrang and Beauxbatons will be competing the TriWizard Tournament. One student from each school will be chosen to participate in three tasks deadly tasks that require strength, talent and intellect. Additionally, the prospect of "eternal glory" awaits the winner of the Tournament.

The depth of the main trio (fictional Harry Potter, Ron Weasley and Hermione Granger with real-life counterparts Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint and Emma Watson) explodes in this innuendo-packed, unavoidably melodramatic saga of 14-year-old best friends. From Harry's childish infatuation with Cho Chang (Katie Lueng) to Ron and Hermione's overt attraction, the trio begins to experience internal dilemmas, which in Harry's case are coupled with the pressure of the being the fourth TriWizard Tournament Champion.

The central conflict revolves around Harry's accidental placement as the "Fourth Champion" of the TriWizard Tournament. As implied by its name, the TriWizard Tournament is only intended to have three champions. However, through a sinister and ominous turn of events Harry's name erupts from the Goblet of Fire naming him the fourth overall, and the second Hogwarts,



COURTESY OF [HTTP://KINO.URAL.RU](http://kino.ural.ru)
Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson and Miranda Richards star in Goblet.

champion, which leads to plenty of intra-Hogwarts tension between supporters of Cedric Diggory (Robert Pattinson) and Harry Potter, especially when Ron sides with Cedric out of jealousy!

Goblet of Fire can win over even the unenthusiastic with its more winsome trio: dragons, mermaids and labyrinths. Each of these quite literally deathly-defying tasks could rival the suspense and grandeur of not only their literary origins, but also a typical Spielberg summer sensation. Harry arguably shows more magical expertise in the movie than in the books, where he clearly nudged, poked and prodded from every angle by his criminal godfather, bookish best friend and crazed Defense Against the Dark Arts Professor Mad-Eye Moody (Brendan Gleeson). During the film, Harry's talents and "moral fiber" are more credited to his own merit rather than the leaps and bounds taken by those closest to him. Yet his most supportive, albeit demented, professor and ally has more than just Harry's best interest at heart. Mad-Eye Moody is a man of legendary prowess and insanity and is sure to win over audiences' hearts everywhere when he transfigures Draco Malfoy (Tom Felton) into a ferret.

Adolescent crushes and TriWizard tasks aside, *Goblet of Fire* begins to scratch at the "dark and difficult times that lie ahead." The epic nature of the Harry Potter series emerges within the characters and tribulations of this movie. The differentiation between what is right and what is easy becomes more and more pronounced as the horrors of a magical world at war fall steadily into then open. Overt and hidden loyalties become dangerously relevant when, as *Goblet of Fire* explicitly states, "everything is going to change."

HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE

Director: Mike Newell
Starring: Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint, Emma Watson, Ralph Fiennes, Maggie Smith, Michael Gambon
Run time: 2 hours, 30 minutes
Rating: PG-13
Showing at: The Senator Theatre, AWC Towson Commons 8, Regal East Point Movies 10, R/C Hollywood Cinema 4

Hardcore conquers

Hatebreed frontman discusses his music

BY ZACH GOODMAN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Recently, *News-Letter* sat down with Jamey Jasta, lead singer of famed Connecticut hardcore band Hatebreed, owner of Stillborn Records and host of MTV2's *Headbanger's Ball*, before his show at the Sonar Lounge Nov. 18. Jasta and Hatebreed are on their "Decade of Brutality Tour," celebrating the formative band's tenth year.

News-Letter: Why so angry?

Jamey Jasta: There's a lot of injustice in the world, a lot of kids laid up in hospital beds, people in abusive relationships, war, no shortage of stuff to be angry about.

N-L: How is the new album going to be different from the last one?

JJ: The stuff that we have so far is, I think, more metal than anything we've ever done — more thrash elements, more brutality as far as the breakdowns and mid-tempo stuff and the double bass. It's pretty in-your-face. People thought the last one was way heavier than the one before, so I imagine this one will be heavier than them all.

N-L: Rise of Brutality began exactly where *Perseverance* left off. Why did you make that choice?

JJ: Bad Brains did it, a bunch of other bands did it, I just thought it was cool. Because we really didn't have "Tear It Down" finished — we wanted to include it on *Perseverance* as the last song, we just were like, "Well, it's a killer riff. We'll just open the next record with it."

N-L: How did you guys get together?

JJ: In '95, me and [bassist Chris] Beattie — our other bands fizzled out and we got together with our old drummer and guitar player and started jamming in a little basement in Bridgeport, Conn., and the rest is history.

N-L: What's the songwriting process for you like? Do you just get together and play?

JJ: Yeah, get a couple of 40s, go down to the basement, plug the amps in and just ... you know, if it gave us chills or if it made us want to rip our own hair out, we kept it.

N-L: In the decade you guys have been around, there have been a lot of great hardcore bands that have come and gone. What have you done differently? Why have you guys had such staying power?

JJ: I think we've stayed humble. We try to treat people the way we want

to be treated. We're a band "by the people, for the people" sort of deal. It's turned into a movement, pretty much, where all these cities we go to the kids know what to expect. We're out there, we're bringing out young bands, trying to give back to the scene. I still do my label. I'm fighting the good fight in every way possible to expose hardcore, metal and punk to people that may not have the luxury of having a cool DIY record store or radio station or Internet site. So it's just about spreading the word still and supporting what we can support, you know, and just staying together and staying grounded.

N-L: Hardcore has always been a close-knit family. Now that hardcore is bigger than ever in the age of Ozzfest, how do you think it's changed?

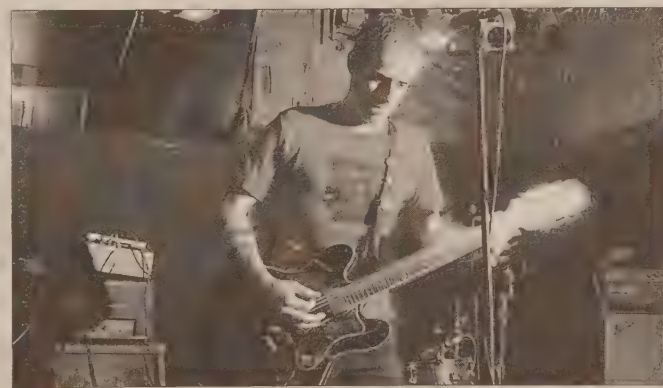
JJ: The change is that a lot of bands are actually having careers and actually being able to see the fruits of years of labor, which I think is really positive, especially for a genre that's so passionate. People really bleed and sweat and really go through tons of s**t just to play a show. I think it's great that there's bands that are actually coming home and actually paying their rent while they're away, doing things like that. So that's killer. And it's great to see people who let me stay at their house in '91 not struggling. For as far as our close-knit group of friends, if you look at, like, Killswitch [Engage] and Shadows Fall — these are people I've known for over a decade, and now they have careers. They're some of the biggest names in metal and hardcore. I think it's wonderful.

N-L: Who do you think the best up-and-coming bands in hardcore right now?

JJ: There's a lot. I really love Municipal Waste. I think it's killer that they do, like, pretty basic late '80s thrash, mid-to-late '80s thrash, and I think no one else is doing that in that fashion where it's just about fun and not alienating anybody. They put on a killer show and people go and go completely berserk. They're definitely one of my favorites right now. I also like Comeback Kid, I like The Distance, I like The Risk Taken from Connecticut, who I actually just signed. I'm putting out their album. What else? I got a bunch of records before I left that I've been trying to rip into my iPod. If Hope Dies, Trevor from Unearth gave me their CD and I liked them enough to take them on the road. There's a bunch.

To access the full version of this interview, visit the Arts Section under the *News-Letter's* Web site at <http://www.jhunewsletter.com>.

Ted Leo, Hot Hot Heat tear up B'more



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.DISSEMINATE.COM](http://www.disseminate.com)
Ted Leo, flu symptoms and all, played the Ottobar last Wednesday.

BY ALEX BEGLEY
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

Saturday before, Thanksgiving Break, Sonar hosted Hot Hot Heat, proving once again that when it comes to big-name, indie sell-outs, Sonar is the place to be. The band had just opened for the Weezer/Foo Fighters double bill U.S. tour and were in the middle of their own month-long tour of the Midwest and Northeast. The tour was expertly planned with We Are Scientists and The Redwalls, both booked as openers for the Canadian band. The Redwalls' bluesy garage rock and sweet demeanor were a perfect complement to Hot Hot Heat.

The crowd for the show was packed with die-hard fans and die-hard teeny-boppers. One could perceptively hear the sound of dozens of hearts collectively break as lead-singer Steve Bays launched into "Talk to Me, Dance with Me." Bays, spent more time disappearing into the crowd than he did strutting his tight pants across the stage. The band roared through the entirety of their new dance-friendly, indie-pop album, *Elevator*. The boys were not afraid to please the crowd by playing the favorites like "Bandages," and "Get In or Get Out," but for some reason they omitted "Aveda" from the set-list (a grave mistake).

Hot Hot Heat left the stage, sweaty and exhausted, but of course soon returned their adoring fans for an encore. They ended on their appropriate new hit "Goodnight, Goodnight," with Bays in the crowd,

allowing it to sing the entire chorus and to, of course, touch his hair.

Later that week on Wednesday, November 23, Ted Leo came to play to a sold-out Ottobar crowd.

The Pharmacists played the same venue almost one year earlier, but the house then was in no way sold out. Yet on a colder, more miserable night, Baltimoreans and a sizeable Hopkins crowd found a warm haven at the Ottobar. The top floor was packed three rows deep, and people crammed into the tightest of spaces just to get a good glimpse of the show.

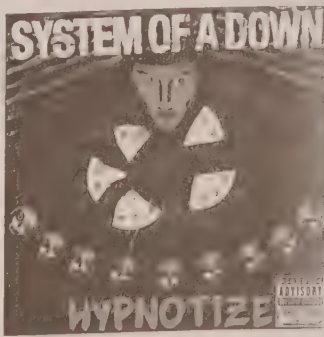
Ted Leo made it a point to play a show so good that you didn't need a good view of the stage to enjoy yourself, even when he was sick. It was obvious that he was battling some intense flu symptoms as he grimaced through each chorus, but whatever bug was plaguing him didn't have any effect on his sound or his energy. He opened with a decidedly non-crowd pleaser from an early album but had redeemed himself by the third song with "Me and Mia."

Maybe he was intimidated by the bigger crowd, maybe he was just tired of touring, but either way, this year's Ted Leo performance at the Ottobar did little to outshine his last one.

Nevertheless, it was with happy hearts that people returned home for Thanksgiving, thanks in large part to the popular musicians who made Baltimore a stop on their tour this year. Hot Hot Heat and Ted Leo/Pharmacists, in one week, in the same city, for under \$30 is enough for anyone to give thanks for.

New Vibrations

System of a Down
Hypnotize
Sony
Nov. 22, 2005



If you were to give the rowdiest inmates in your typical insane asylum some distortion guitars and a couple books by Noam Chomsky, they would probably come up with music akin to the rabid rock that is System of a Down's trademark. Since 2001's *Toxicity*, the Armenian band has transcended its original fire-and-fury novelty reputation, inducing at its best the kind of down-with-society mad-man euphoria that heavy metal achieved before entering the unfortunate reign of Korn and Slipknot. After spending the past few years fuming over the activities of the Bush administration, SOAD streamlined its head-banging mania into a two-album megaproject, consisting of the summer release *Mezmerize* and its fall companion, *Hypnotize*.

I wonder, though, if it wasn't too much. Overdosing on absurdist anger — delivered here in nutty-and-nuttier pieces like "Kill Rock'n'Roll" and "Vicinity of Obscenity" — isn't all that easy. But no matter how many times you can listen to front man Serj Tankian implode, you can't deny *Hypnotize*, while revisiting the angst of earlier albums, does not embrace the unpolished, obsessive force that made System the band it is.

When they dispensed with things like harmony and lyrical logic, which ripple obscurely through *Hypnotize*

until the cleaned-up last tracks "Lonely Day" and "Soldier Side," the group had a candid, endearing force. Part of this is dissipated by guitarist turned backup singer Darin Malakian, who spends several songs impersonating Green Day's Billie Joe Armstrong. You can't tell whether our Armenian friends are stretching the bounds of their aesthetic with songs like *Hypnotize's* title track, or just falling back on mainstream conventions.

Of course the politics are superfluous, especially when you consider what a rampantly cynical and otherwise unmatched indictment of the Iraq war this year's earlier single "B.Y.O.B." proved. Still, more recent adrenaline-pumping fare like "Attack," along with the doomsday echo chamber opening of "Holy Mountains," proves more or less irresistible. *Hypnotize*, for all its polished let-down, is often enough true to System form: tantalizing us with some juicy pieces of aural knock-around and then, with a mixture of grinning lunacy and upright frustration, offering us another portion.

—Patrick Kennedy

Thrice
Vheissu
Island
Oct. 18, 2005



"We're more than carbon and chemicals." When Thrice begins their fourth album, *Vheissu*, the listener is told to expect much more on the way. While their album title references the Thomas Pynchon novel "V," Thrice's new sound comes from a multitude of genres you could never have guessed (jazz for one). Forget the speed-metal riffs. Forget the big choruses. Thrice's fans and label placed enormous pressure on them to follow up their earlier *The Artist in the Ambulance*. What they did, much to everyone's relief, was create their masterpiece.

"Image of the Invisible," the album's first single, kicks off the record and sets the tone for the songs to come. Thrice has always had a dark side to their music, but their pop choruses didn't do the band justice. This time, Thrice strives for more angular guitars, rather than fast solos and palm-muting verses. Their new songs are equally as big, but there is now more depth, thanks to their musical evolution.

In addition to the music, Thrice uses their always-impressive lyrics to weave a stirring tapestry around the songs. If one needs an example, "The Earth Will Shake" begins like an old prison dirge with lead singer Dustin Kensrue, usually accustomed to screaming lyrics, belting out the open-

ing lines in a soulful, bluesy manner. Fans of Thrice may be surprised with the amount of piano on the album, which truly encompasses the overall change in Thrice's music; their newly-found maturity. *Vheissu* ends with "Red Sky," an epic and poignantly beautiful ballad. Once the music fades out, the listener is left floored by what has just transpired. Eleven songs, 50 minutes and one of the best albums of 2005.

Older fans may have a problem with *Vheissu* and Thrice's new direction, but if you want to hear that sound, go listen to *The Illusion of Safety*. Thrice has succeeded in making the most different, yet best album of their career to date: cohesive, emotive and all-around extremely powerful. "Red Sky" leaves us with the line, "We'll raise an empire from the bottom of the sea." Thrice has taken the next step as musicians by not just creating an album, but creating a revolution, and has done so in a manner that can be appreciated by any fan of rock and roll.

—Joseph Micali

Paul McCartney
Chaos and Creation in the Backyard
Capitol
Sept. 13, 2005



Who would've thought the new Paul McCartney album would be something worthwhile? After putting out that song "Freedom" about 9/11, I don't think anyone imagined that Sir Paul would team up with Radiohead and Beck producer Nigel Godrich to produce Beatles-quality work. Though not very close to Beatles quality, *Chaos and Creation in the Backyard* has a handful of songs that can be entered into the McCartney cannon, while the other handful sounds exactly like the weird mix of atmospheric overproduction and romantic ditties you would expect.

The disc starts off with the first single "A Fine Line," an upbeat song to the tune of the fast part of "Live and Let Die." It's very interesting to see how the record sounds like Paul McCartney and the backup band from "Sea Change" all at once. The real highlight of the beginning of the album is "Jenny Wren." It's a slow Beatlesesque song, like an acoustic "Eleanor Rigby." Note that when I say Beatlesesque I really mean that this song is as good as any

Beatles song ever written. Yes, that is a big statement, but it's true. "A Certain Softness" has a Latin flavor with a classic Paul melody. "Friends to Go" sounds like an early Beatles classic but with twisting chord changes and updated production. "Too Much Rain" evokes the best ballads of McCartney's solo years.

While it is true that there are plenty of valid Beatles references on this record, there are some quite obvious attempts at superficially recalling Beatles nostalgia. The keyboard part from "English Tea" sounds like the beginning of "For No One," with even the same first two chords. The beginning of the album has these funny voices and then Paul counting off, "Uh, 1, 2, 3," which is meant to recall "Sgt. Pepper's." But it didn't need these vague shout-outs to remind us that this is Paul McCartney, the bass player of the Beatles; some of the songs do this well enough themselves.

—Adam Lempel

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Márquez's Whores lacks innovation

Memories of My Melancholy Whores
Gabriel García Márquez
Knopf
115 pages
October 25, 2005

BY AMY SHEERAN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

After a ten-year break from novel-writing, Gabriel García Márquez returns with *Memories of My Melancholy Whores*, a scant tale of love overcoming habit and old age. Though it sounds like an echo of *Love in the Time of Cholera*, it's not — though it might be better if it had been.

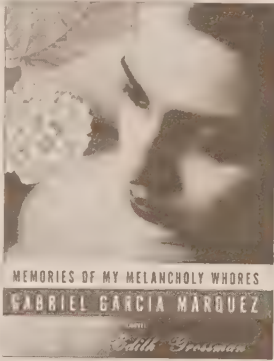
Our protagonist and narrator, a crotchety, self-obsessed newspaperman and professor we know only by the nickname Professor Gloomy Hills, decides to celebrate his 90th birthday with "the gift of a night of wild love with an adolescent virgin." But when he meets his 14-year-old present she remains asleep for the duration of the novel — this self-avowed man of leisure falls in love for the first time.

Early on, we learn that Professor Gloomy Hills has paid for every sexual encounter in his life, even if the woman wasn't a prostitute and had to be forced to accept the money. He also keeps a list of every woman he has ever slept with (between ages 20 and 50, there were 514). Certainly, this man has had his share of opportunities for love — and it's this sleeping lump of

flesh that finally does him in?

Readers of García Márquez should be used to accepting the impossible without batting an eye, but here the narrator is earnest rather than fantastical; he strives for realism without a trace of the magic of *One Hundred Years of Solitude*. Instead, ordinariness is thrust upon us on every page — Gloomy Hills recites in detail what books are most important to him (five dictionaries); recounts the programs of past concerts precisely, including his opinions on the interpretations of various works; and relates entire conversations, taking care to describe specific awkwardnesses.

Having spent his entire life preoccupied with nobody but himself, the Professor is reluctant to start acknowledging other people this late in the game. The object of his affections, whom he calls Delgadina, is practically a figment of his imagination. When, after a brief period



apart, he notices that her appearance has changed slightly; this interference of the outside world makes him jealous and suspicious.

Although there are some parallels with *Lolita*, Gloomy Hills is not nearly as interesting a narrator. His neuroses aren't meant to make us question him, but rather to reinforce his truthfulness. The result, rather than a strange, compelling persona like a Humbert or an Underground Man, is a banal, obsessive and ultimately very boring old man.

In contrast to his other great works, García Márquez gives us a straightforward, banal account and a single, one-dimensional character. In trying to distance himself from his earlier styles, his latest work comes off as an exercise in writing as mundanely as possible. He succeeds, but it's hardly an accomplishment.

Offbeat Squid perfects divorce drama

BY SIMON WAXMAN
THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

In one of the most poignant film releases in recent memory, writer-director Noah Baumbach reaches back into his childhood memories, providing us with sharp wit with a message. *The Squid and the Whale* is a strikingly human story of divorce and coming of age set in Brooklyn's posh Park Slope neighborhood in 1986.

Bernard Berkman (Jeff Daniels) is a college literature professor, once-successful author and class-A New York Bohemian. Laura Linney plays, Joan, his post-hippie wife turned divorcée, herself a member of the literati seeking to publish a new book — a fact that distresses the fiercely competitive Bernard, who swears a blue streak when she refuses to rewrite her novel to his specifications. Their children, Walt (Jesse Eisenberg) and Frank (Owen Kline), are stuck in the middle.

The boys deal with their parents' breakup in very different ways. Walt, 16, idolizes his father and, initially, absorbs the latter's insufferable preentiousness like a sponge while plagiarizing Pink Floyd for the school talent show. Frank, 12, magnificently portrayed by the promising son of actors Kevin Kline and Phoebe Cates, jerks off in inappropriate places, dabbles in alcoholism and emulates his father's foul mouth. Both children are understandably troubled by their parents' breakup, the difficulties of which are exacerbated by the revelation of their mother's infidelity and the appearance of a flirtatious student, Lili (Anna Paquin), who moves in with Bernard.

The Squid and the Whale is a distinctly clever film. The script is full of enjoyable one-liners and memorable moments. Though above all, the characters are painfully realistic. Who hasn't experienced an embarrassing episode like Walt's suave explanation to his putative girlfriend Sophie (Halley Feiffer) that Franz Kafka's *Metamorphosis* is "Kafkaesque"? It is this realism, enhanced by the grainy look and characteristic Steady Cam shake, that makes the



Jesse Eisenberg and Anna Paquin star in director Noah Baumbach's coming-of-age autobiographical drama.

film so effective. The collective despair and humiliation of the cast is palpable because we can relate easily to their circumstances.

The authenticity of the characters, and hence of the film more generally, comes thanks to some excellent performances, most notably by Daniels and Kline. *The Squid and the Whale* represents a major shift in Daniels' career, which previously had been highlighted by the aptly titled 1994 Farrelly brothers comedy *Dumb and Dumber*. In *Squid*, Daniels exhibits previously unrealized talent and perfect comic timing in his portrayal of the overbearing dad in crisis.

Though his character is a caricature of pompous yuppies the world over, Daniels manages to play Bernard with a certain blunt indifference that makes him unique. Though Bernard is unnecessarily critical, hugely self-absorbed and, frankly, a bit of a jerk, Daniels emphasizes his pitiable aspects more than those deserving of scorn and derision.

As good as Daniels is, young Owen Kline steals the show as Frank Berkman. Frank's antics evoke the

discomfiting works of Todd Solondz (*Happiness*, *Welcome to the Dollhouse*); on several occasions, you will laugh at him because you are not sure what else to do. His character is so nuanced that he can seem almost adorable when chugging beer, smearing semen on a locker or engaging in a near-Oedipal moment. The strength of Kline's acting is, perhaps, best revealed in his relationship with tennis coach cum potential step dad Ivan (William Baldwin in a terrific bit part). The two share a bond of friendship that Kline plays with a subtlety well beyond his years and experience.

It is Frank and Walt who allow *The Squid and the Whale* to transcend the screen. At its heart, the movie tells a tale not of growing up — a gradual process — but punctuated evolution of the self. Two boys forced to face demons (and that is where, late in the film, the title is key), overcome them and step out of their father's shadow. At times, Baumbach's film strays dangerously close to suggesting that mother Joan will make it all better, but that is not the message we are ultimately left

with. *The Squid and the Whale* is an intensely personal, largely autobiographical, story. Apparently, what Baumbach gained from his parents' divorce was not a newfound appreciation for his mom, but rather greater understanding of himself. Thanks to this sublime new movie, low-budget and free of wiz-bang and gosh-wow, we too gain that insight. This movie won't change your life like the events it portrays did Baumbach's, but it may well nestle into your soul.

THE SQUID AND THE WHALE

Director: Noah Baumbach
Starring: Jeff Daniels, Laura Linney, Jesse Eisenberg, Owen Kline, Anna Paquin, Halley Feiffer, William Baldwin
Run Time: 1 hour, 21 minutes
Rating: R
Showing at: The Charles Theatre



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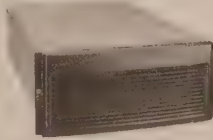
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CARTOONS, ETC.

your Horoscope



ARIES: (MARCH 21—APRIL 19)
The world does not revolve around you and your desire to be the next American Idol, so stop making your friends listen to your "talent".



TAURUS: (APRIL 20—MAY 20)
Fat actors are hard to come by in Hollywood, which is really a shame, because this country could use more TV shows like *Jake and the Fat Man*.



GEMINI: (MAY 21—JUNE 20)
Lady and the Tramp may have been appropriate to watch when you were a kid, but you're almost a full-fledged adult by now. Grow up already.



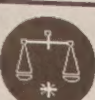
CANCER: (JUNE 21—JULY 22)
Who the hell decided it would be a good idea to make Thanksgiving break so short!? That whole break was such a damn tease.



LEO: (JULY 23—AUG. 22)
Works by Monet are still on display at the BMA, but you probably don't care because you wouldn't go see them if you were paid to, you uncultured jerk.



VIRGO: (AUG. 23—SEPT. 22)
At this time of the year, the weather is getting colder, which means at least one good thing for us: You'll finally start wearing pants again.



LIBRA: (SEPT. 23—OCT. 22)
Orient your spring class schedule to give you enough free time and breaks between lectures, that way you'll stop snoring in class once and for all.



SCORPIO: (OCT. 23—NOV. 21)
Express your individuality this week, because everyone knows it's healthy for your self-esteem, but for the love of God: please don't do it by streaking in the Hut.



SAGITTARIUS: (NOV. 22—DEC. 21)
Is it wrong to make fun of your enemies? Of course not, that's why they're your enemies! It's not wrong to leave flaming turds on their doorstep either.



CAPRICORN: (DEC. 23—JAN. 19)
Really consider shaving off all that facial hair. It's getting way too unruly, and no one wants to see that huge mess, especially since you're a chick.



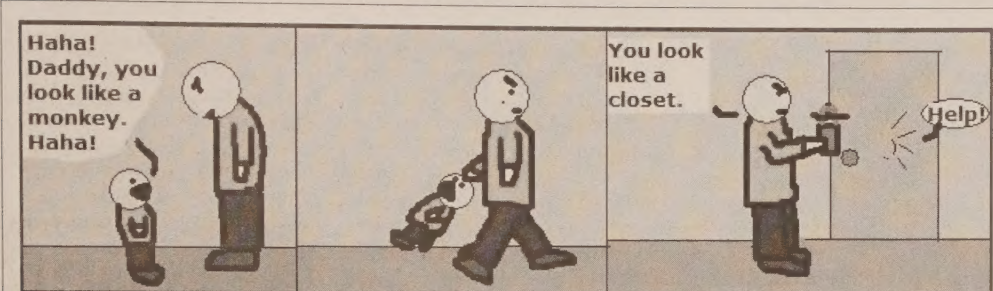
AQUARIUS: (JAN. 20—FEB. 18)
"Damn you dirty apes!" may have been Charlton Heston's famous line from *Planet of the Apes*, but that doesn't mean you should yell it at random pedestrians.



PISCES: (FEB. 19—MARCH 20)
Scary movies, no matter how good the originals were, are never good when they are made into sequels. Except *Trapped in the Closet, Part 6*. R. Kelly is so creepy.

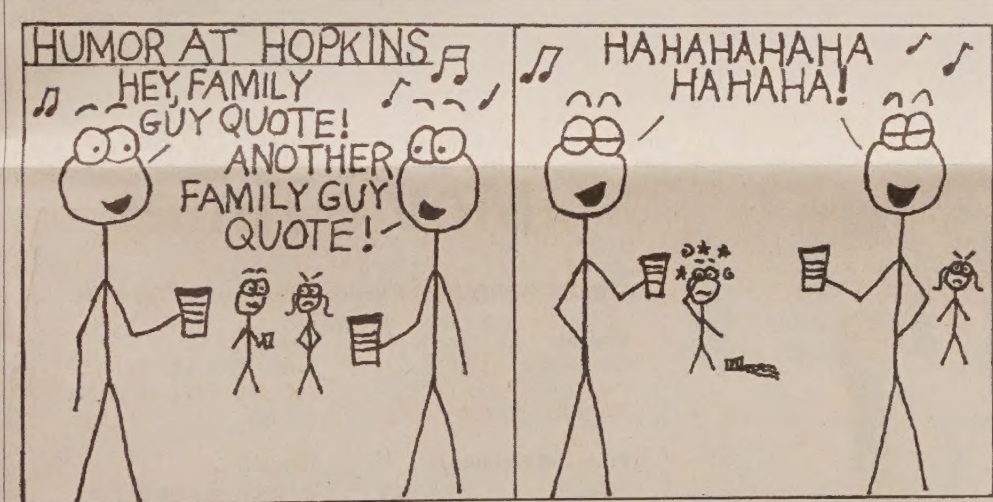
Wasted Ink

by Nate Min



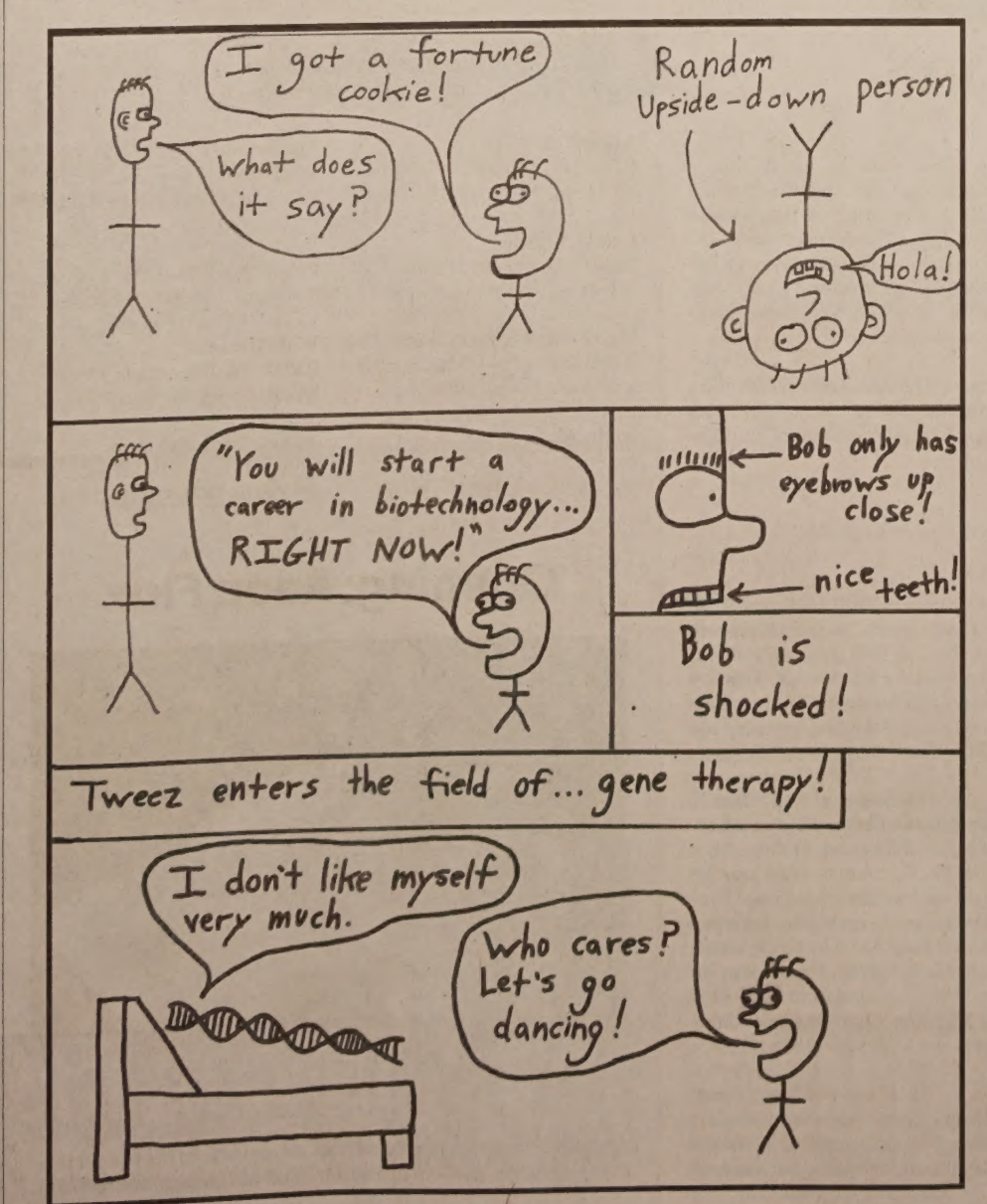
People Not Frogs

by John Kernan



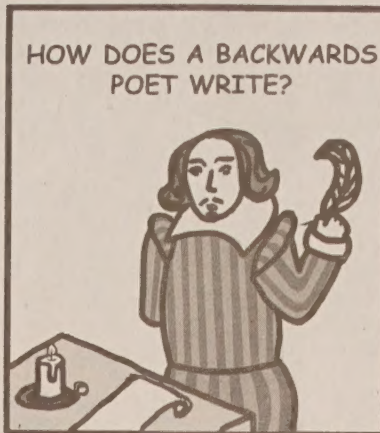
Tweezer & Bob

by Matt Diamond



JHU Jumble

by Ann Renee Angiulo



VEEUR

KICLN

RTEASR

MTES

LAST WEEK'S ANSWER: PARKING ZONES DISEASE

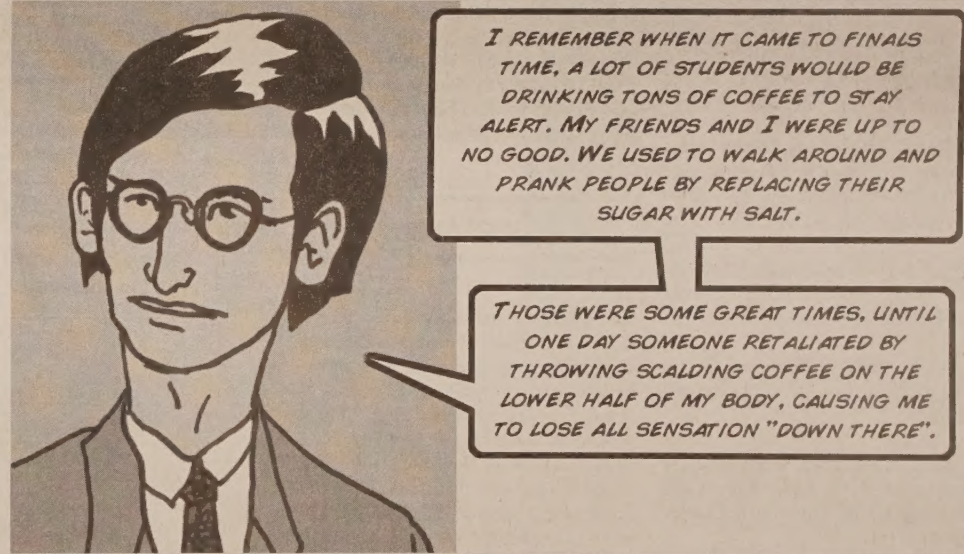
Master of Arts

by Michael Specian



Yearbook Confessions

by William Parschalk



Slapdash

by Ann Renee Angiulo



CALENDAR

FEATURED EVENTS

Baltimore ‘design-core’ Double Dagger to play at the Talking Head

Local Baltimore punk heroes Double Dagger will be storming the Talking Head Club this Thursday.

The band was formed in 2003 by Nolen Strals and Bruce Willen — both graphic designers and graduates of the Maryland Institute College of Art — after the demise of their previous band, League of Death. They were joined by Brian Dubin, formerly of Charm City Suicides and Stars of the Dogon.

As their name implies, Double Dagger delivers an edgy, simultaneously driving and nervy brand of minimalist post-punk (or, in their own words: “graphic design-core hipster-hating rock”) which is best taken with a shot of tetanus. A brief scan through the titles of the songs on their self-titled, 23-minute-long debut album reveals their hidden agenda: “Corporate Logo Preservation Society” and “My Dad Has a Theory that the Internet is the Roman Coliseum of Our Times” are the most obvious examples that Double Dagger intend to wreak socioeco-

nomichavoc. Functioning under the premise of a punk band with a “design” theme, songs like “CMYK” and “Comic Book Lettering” reference their graphic designer day-jobs and how angry they are about them.

They have the firepower to back it up, too (Double Dagger? More like... Double AK47!). Vocalist Strals barks out sermons worthy of Mark E. Smith from The Fall before descending into throat-blistering screams in the style of Refused-era Dennis Lyxzén. Their guitar-less arrangement might initially invite comparisons to contemporary Pitchfork Media darling Death From Above 1979. However, Willen and Dubin forgo the heavy-metal affectations of DFA79 to deliver a unique, almost skeletal rhythm section. The noisy product is a sound that is at times danceable, at times pummeling and all the time prompting you to spaz the hell out.

Doors open at 9:30 p.m. and the show starts at 10. Tickets are \$7. For more information go to <http://www.talkingheadclub.com>.

—William K. Chang



COURTESY OF MIKE ANDERSON
Graphic designer by day and punk band vocalist by night: Nolen Strals, the lead singer of Double Dagger, prepares to eat his mic.



COURTESY OF CHRISTOPHER BRUN
One of the many Elvis impersonators shows the crowd what he's got at last year's Night of 100 Elvises.

The King is back (in Baltimore)

On Aug. 17, 1977 newspapers across the nation were printed with a front-page headline of four pithy words, “The King is Dead.” No one really knew how it happened — whether it was just one of those bad bathroom visits, or a result of all those grilled peanut butter and banana sandwiches.

But one thing was made evident on that day — an entire generation, let alone the largest genre of modern music, owed its very own identity to this one man: Elvis Presley. Even today, hundreds of Elvis sightings are reported every year. The hairstyle, white jump suit and that seductive tone of voice have all been witnessed repeatedly, but one event in Baltimore is certain to result in thousands of sightings reported.

The ninth annual “Night of 100 Elvises” this Friday and Saturday is sure to draw the King’s most avid and religious followers. The event is being held as a benefit to the Johns Hopkins Children Center. Throughout the evening, at least 15 bands will be performing Elvis’ greatest hits. It is inevitable that many of them will be dressed as the rock’n’roll creator himself and most will punctuate their performances with the assertion of Elvis having departed the building.

The list of performers will be divided into two separate performances for each night. Among the many bands (aptly named with an Elvis pun) include Elvis Parsley, Elvis E, the Graceliners, the Fabulettes, Chris Presley & All the King’s Men, the Karb Kings, Melvis and the Jungle Katz and Honky Tonk Confidential.

Tickets, ranging from \$50 to \$75, may seem out of league for a student, but keep in mind that attendees will enjoy a buffet of Elvis’ favorite foods (not just P.B. & B.), drinks that are on the house, not to mention a giant ice sculpture of the king playing his guitar. The event will be divided into three main areas: a ballroom, a lounge and the “jungle room.” All of which will provide different levels of Elvis entertainment including Elvis impersonators, movies and gambling tables.

With all the planned festivities featuring rock’n’roll’s most famous icon, “Night of 100 Elvises” is not an event to be missed by anyone who is to the slightest degree an Elvis fan. For more information, visit <http://www.nightof100elvises.com>.

—Pavan Dalal

—Anusha Gopalratnam

Religious Services

THURSDAY, DEC. 1

12 p.m. **Lutheran Discussion Group** will meet in Levering. For more information call Rev. Don Burggraf at (410) 235-2356.

5 p.m. **A Divine Liturgy and Dinner** for Eastern Orthodox students will be held at the Interfaith Center.

7:30 p.m. **Baptist Bible study** will take place at the University Baptist Church.

9 p.m. **Unitarian Universalist Services** with Dr. Larry Egbert will be held at the Interfaith Center Library.

FRIDAY, DEC. 2

1:15 p.m. **Jumah prayers** will be held at the Interfaith Center. Visit <http://www.jhu.edu/~jhumso> for more information.

8 p.m. **Seventh Day Adventist** services with Fredrick Russell will be held at the Interfaith Center.

SATURDAY, DEC. 3

9:15 a.m. **Shabbat Service** at the Smokler Center for Jewish Life. For more information and updated times visit <http://www.hopkinshillel.org>

SUNDAY, DEC. 4

11 a.m. **Catholic Mass** will be held at the Interfaith Center. Visit <http://www.catholic.jhu.edu> for more information.

11 a.m. **Aarathi** will be held at the Interfaith Center, lower level. For more information, e-mail HSC@jhu.edu.

2 p.m. **Stepping Stones Ministry** will hold services in Shaffer 3, followed by a fellowship meeting at 3:30 p.m.

7:30 p.m. **Baptist service and contemporary worship** will take place at

the University Baptist Church.

8 p.m. The Graduate Christian Fellowship will have its weekly meeting in the Marylander Apartments in the London Room. For more information about the meeting, e-mail Bmac@jhu.edu.

Visual Arts

Sacred Arts and City Life: The Glory of Medieval Novgorod is a collection of sculptures, textiles and artifacts from Veliky Novgorod, Russia’s oldest medieval city. This will be displayed at the Walters Art Museum on 600 North Charles St. Trace the rise and fall of the city first hand by examining the icons of the age. The exhibition is organized in collaboration with the State Russian Museum in St. Petersburg and the Novgorod Museum Federation. The venue hours are Wednesday to Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Price is \$6 for college students with I.D. For more information call (410) 547-9000.

The Contemporary Museum is hosting **Crowd of the Person**, a free exhibit of the works of four individuals and their unique takes on the concept of emancipation and the stretching of convention. Sleepers, the project of Francis Alys, is a montage of homeless people that examines not the issue of poverty but of those who live outside the social norms of everyday life. For more information go to <http://www.contemporary.org> or call (410) 783-5720.

Race, Class, Gender CHARACTER will be exhibited at the American Visionary Art Museum on 800 Key Highway. The exhibit aims to address the issue of character as something autonomous from the factors of race, class and gender. The “Human Race Machine” by Nancy Burson allows users to be transformed into any of six different races. Tickets range from \$7 to \$11. For more information contact (410) 244-1900.

The Walters Art Museum will feature **Things with Wings: Mythological Figures in Ancient Greek Art** a collection of 20 different winged objects from Greek mythology. The exhibit includes replications of Eros the messenger god, the griffin, the sirens and the most fa-

mous of all winged figures: the Pegasus. Admission for students with I.D. is \$6. Exhibit hours are Wednesday to Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information call (410) 597-9000 or visit the Web site at <http://www.thewalters.org>.

The Maryland Historical Society will host a silver collection entitled **Served in Style**. The artifacts range from the 18th to the 20th century, providing a rich story of silver ownership in Maryland. The array of finery includes candlesticks, tea sets and serving pieces. Admission for students with I.D. is \$6. Exhibit hours are Wednesday to Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information contact (410) 685-3750 or visit <http://www.mdhs.org>.

Miscellaneous Events

THURSDAY, DEC. 1

11:45 a.m. **Fitness Walking** will be led by Anne Irwin. Walkers will meet in front of the Rec Center. Wear comfortable shoes. Walks will be outdoors to enjoy the fall foliage and get a relaxing work out. For more information call (410) 516-4413 or visit the Web site at <http://www.jhu.edu/recreation>.

5:30 p.m. **A Monumental Occasion** will take place with the lighting of the Washington Monument in Mount Vernon. Among the many

performers will be the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. The lighting will be performed by Mayor O’Malley and Baltimore’s most eccentric filmmaker John Waters. For more information call (410) 244-1030 or visit the Web site at <http://www.godowntownbaltimore.com>.

6 p.m. The **SAC General Meeting** will take place in Mattin 162. Email sacexec@jhu.edu for more information.

FRIDAY, DEC. 2

4:30 p.m. The **JHSPH Happy Hour** will take place in the Bloomberg building in East Baltimore in the first floor student lounge. This free event is sponsored by The Insoluble Fraction and the Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Social Group.

5 p.m. The **National Aquarium in Baltimore** offers a discounted admission of \$5 every Friday after 5 p.m. The discounted admission is a great deal, so don’t pass it up! Even if you have been to the aquarium before, head down to check out the new dolphin show. For more information, including hours of operation, group discounts and directions, call (410) 567-3845.

8 p.m. The **Maryland Space Grant Observatory** located in Bloomberg offers you a free chance to look at the solar system with its telescopes. **CONTINUED ON PAGE B11**

Movie Times

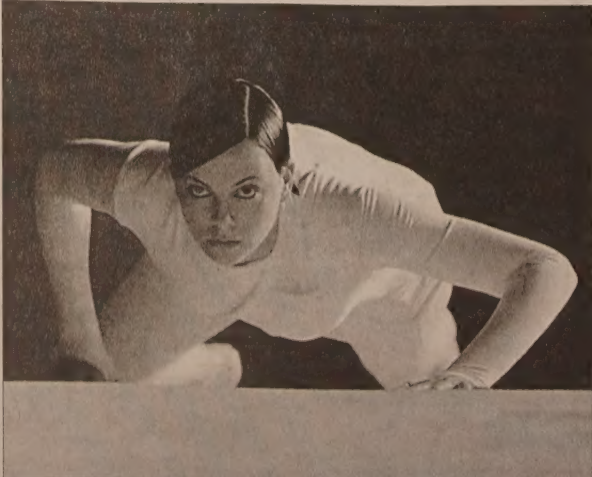
SHOWTIMES FOR THE CHARLES THEATRE FOR THURSDAY

Revivals Saturdays at 12 p.m. Mondays at 7 p.m. Thursdays at 9 p.m.	Capote Rated (R) — 1 hr. 49 min. 2:15 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 7:15 p.m., 9:45 p.m.
Pride and Prejudice Rated (PG) — 2 hrs. 7 min. 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m., 9:30 p.m.	Shoppgirl Rated (R) — 1 hr. 46 min. 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m., 9:30 p.m.
Good Night, And Good Luck Rated (PG) — 1 hr. 33 min. 2:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m.	Rent Rated (PG-13) — 2 hr. 15 min. 1:45 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m.

SHOWTIMES FOR THE AMC TOWSON COMMONS 8 FOR FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

Aeon Flux Rated (PG-13) — 1 hr. 35 min 4:15 p.m., 7:30 p.m., 10 p.m.	Just Friends Rated (PG-13) — 1 hr. 28 min. 4:10 p.m., 7:20 p.m., 9:50 p.m.
Chicken Little Rated (G) — 1 hr. 21 min. 4:30 p.m., 7:45 p.m., 9:40 p.m.	Rent Rated (PG-13) — 2 hr. 15 min. 3:50 p.m., 7:15 p.m., 10:20 p.m.
Harry Potter & the Goblet of Fire Rated (PG-13) — 2 hrs. 30 min. 3:30 p.m., 7 p.m., 10:30 p.m.	Walk the Line Rated (PG-13) — 2 hrs. 13 min. 4 p.m., 7:10 p.m., 10:15 p.m.
In the Mix Rated (PG-13) — 1 hr. 35 min. 4:20 p.m., 7:50 p.m., 9:50 p.m.	Yours, Mine and Ours Rated (PG) — 1 hr. 28 min. 3:45 p.m., 7:40 p.m., 9:45 p.m.

Opening: Aeon Flux



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.ROTTENTOMATOES.COM](http://www.rottentomatoes.com)
Charlize Theron stars as Aeon Flux, an assassin of the future, who receives an assignment to murder a corrupt government official.

CALENDAR

CONCERT LISTINGS

THURSDAY, DEC. 1

9 p.m. **Furious Love Kids** throw tantrums at the Ottobar with supporting acts The Quiet, Even So and E. Joseph. For more information, visit <http://www.theottobar.com>.

9:30 p.m. Baltimore's veteran punk band **Double Dagger**, consisting of MICA alumni Nolen Strals, will bring their own unique genre of 'design-core' to the Talking Head. Sentimental Favorites and Kim++ will support. For more information visit <http://www.talkingheadclub.com>.

FRIDAY, DEC. 2

8 p.m. Your mom and dad's favorite classic rock band **Three Dog Night** will play all their Top 40 hits at the Ram's Head. For more information go to <http://www.ramsheadlive.com>.

8 p.m. **Two Man Advantage** will take on the Sidebar with Supreme Commander, Tenwatch, the Low Budgets and Trashcamp. For more information go to <http://www.sidebartavern.com>.

9 p.m. A hurricane relief benefit hosted by the **Radiators** will be held for the musicians in New Orleans. For more information go to <http://www.eightbytenclub.com>.

9:30 p.m. **Wooly Mammoth** will lumber into the Talking Head, supported by Vincent Black Shadow and Bill & Cotton. For more information visit <http://www.talkingheadclub.com>.

SATURDAY, DEC. 3

8 p.m. **Tears of Mars**, Ashes Remain, Blind Rhetoric and Johnny Orange will invade Fletcher's at Fell's Point. For more information go to <http://www.fletchersbar.com>.

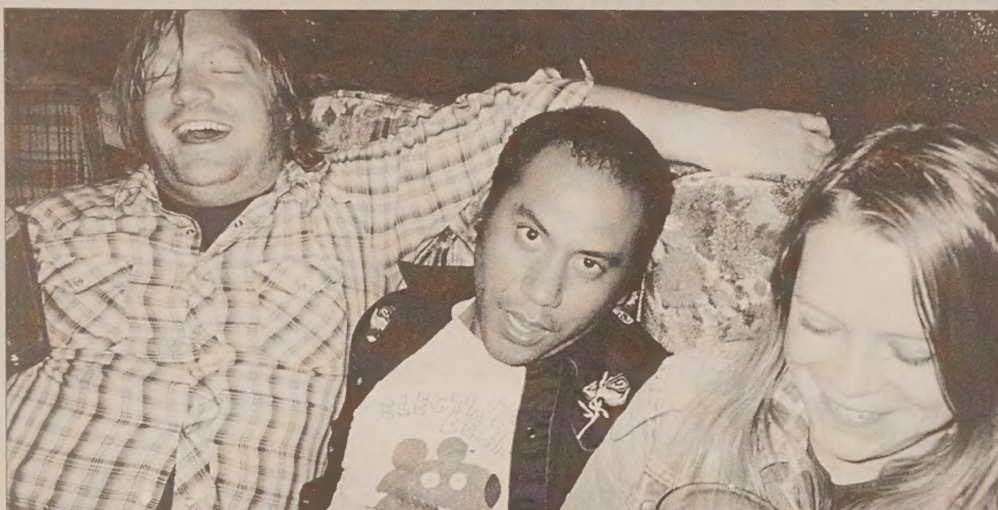
8 p.m. Raoul Bjorkenheim, Ingebrigt Haker Flaten and Paal Nilssen-Love (also known as the **Scorch Trio**) will bring their own fusion of jazz and rock to An die Musik. For more information go to <http://www.andiemusiklive.com>.

8:30 p.m. The Red Room Collective will host **Not Japanese: Light in August** with Bonnie Jones and Andy Hayleck and Jenny Graf with Chiara Giovando. It will be an evening of improvised awesomeness. For more information go to <http://www.redroom.org>.

9 p.m. Hip hop act **Immortal Technique** will storm the Ottobar. For more information, visit <http://www.theottobar.com>.

SUNDAY, DEC. 4

7:30 p.m. Local radio station WRNR 103.1 will present



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.BLUEGHOSTPUBLICITY.COM](http://www.blueghostpublicity.com)

Go dig the sounds of indie band **Blood on the Wall** when they play at the Ottobar this coming Sunday.

Big Bag Voodoo Daddy's Wild Swingin' Holiday Party at the Ram's Head! Prepare for an evening of nostalgic big band music of the 40s and 50s. For more information go to <http://www.ramsheadlive.com>.

9 p.m. Indie newcomers **Blood on the Wall** will splatter their sound on the walls of the Ottobar. Supporting acts include Psychic Ills. For more information, visit <http://www.theottobar.com>.

9:30 p.m. **The Rogue Wave** wash up at the Black Cat with supporting bands Mazarin and (The Sounds of) Kaleidoscope trailing in their wake. For more information visit <http://www.blackcatdc.com>.

MONDAY, DEC. 5

8 p.m. The dub sounds of **Damian 'Junior Gong' Marley** (the youngest of Bob Marley's many children)

will make their way to Sonar. Clan X will be supporting. For more information, visit <http://www.sonarbaltime.com>.

8 p.m. **Noise in the Basement** turn up the volume at Fletcher's Bar. For more information go to <http://www.fletchersbar.com>.

TUESDAY, DEC. 6

6:30 p.m. **Halifax**, Punchline, I Am the Avalanche and Fully Down will pay a visit the Ottobar. For more information, visit <http://www.theottobar.com>.

8 p.m. Old school L.A. punk band **X** will tear up Sonar along with Julianna Hatfield. For more information, visit <http://www.sonarbaltime.com>.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 7

9:30 p.m. Austrian electronic band **Pita** prepare to grind up the Talking Head with aid from WZT Hearts and Food for Animals. For more information visit <http://www.talkingheadclub.com>.

9 p.m. **Lucero**, American Princes and Southern Bitch will play at the Ottobar. For more information, visit <http://www.theottobar.com>.

THURSDAY, DEC. 8

7:30 p.m. **Alexis Decharmes** and **Nicolas Baldyrou**, a cello and clarinet duet, will perform together at An die Musik. For more information go to <http://www.andiemusiklive.com>.

8:30 p.m. **Pretty Girls Make Graves** visit the Black Cat with supporting acts the Double and Tangiers. For more information visit <http://www.blackcatdc.com>.

—Compiled by Stephanie Yu

Art Noir at The Maryland Hall



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.ERINFOSTEL.COM](http://www.erinfostel.com)
"Delerium" is a charcoal sketch by Erin Fostel depicting Art Noir.

The Maryland Hall of Creative Arts presents an exhibit of **Art Noir**. This collection features works in multiple mediums, from photography and charcoal sketches to narrative oil paintings and evening suburban portraits. All works embody the dark concept of 'noir,' in which each image portrays more than one meaning, often possessing an underlying tension. The works are dualistic, combining a stark complexity that conveys a multi-layered message of fear and loneliness.

Featured artists include Maryland Institute College of Art teacher Don Cook, MICA graduate Erin Fostel, another MICA alumni Zachary Thornton and Carnegie Mellon art school graduate Charles Ritchie.

The Maryland Hall of Creative Arts is located at 801 Chase Street in Annapolis, Md. For more information contact (410) 269-1087 or visit the Web site at <http://www.marylandhall.org>.

—Stephanie Yu

nity Council Meeting in the Shriver Board Room. For more information contact Robert Turning at (410) 516-2224 or greeklife@jhu.edu.

7:40 p.m. **Argentine Tango** dance classes will be given at the ROTC Building. Learn to lead or follow. No partner necessary. All beginners are welcome. For more information contact cjones2@jhsph.edu.

9 p.m. **Monday Night Football** will be shown at the Hop-Stop. This is a free event and will last until midnight.

TUESDAY, DEC. 6

6:30 p.m. **Free Massages** will be given at the Hop-Stop. For more information call Savithri Raja at (410) 516-8209 or e-mail her at savithri@jhu.edu.

7:30 p.m. **Student Council General Meeting** will take place in the Shriver Hall Board Room.

Performing Arts

FRIDAY, DEC. 2

7 p.m. The **South Asian Society at Hopkins (SASH)** will hold their fall show at Shriver Hall. Featured performances by Hareepa, Masti, RAGE, Kranti and the Penn Dhammake (from the University of Pennsylvania) will display the diversity and variety of the dancing styles of South Asian culture. An after party will be held at the Sonar Lounge with buses leaving from the front of the MSE Library at 10:30 p.m.

8 p.m. The **Throat Culture Fall Show** will be held at the Arellano Theater. Come see the campus' "sketch(y) comedy" which is "funnier than bad poetry." Tickets cost \$2 at the door. For more information email Lbass6@jhu.edu.

8 p.m. Hopkins' very own co-ed a cappella group the **Vocal Chords** will hold their free fall concert at Bloomberg Auditorium featuring modern pop hits and classic rock numbers.

SATURDAY, DEC. 3

8 p.m. The **Octopodes** will perform their free fall concert at Bloomberg Auditorium. Special guests include the Cornell Chordials.

8 p.m. A second comedy performance by **Throat Culture** will be held at the Arellano Theater. Tickets cost \$2 at the door. For more information send an email to Lbass6@jhu.edu.

—Compiled by Stephanie Yu

Upcoming Events

12/9 The All-Nighters, 12/10 The Psychedelic Furs and the Violent Femmes at the Ram's Head, 12/ 10 The Mental Notes, 12/13 Action Action and Karmella's Game at the Ottobar, 12/ 15 Alanis Morissette at the Ram's Head, 12/16 Rotten Shambles plays at the Talking Head

Got an Event?

Send details about future events, including date, time, location, a brief summary of the event and contact information to events@jhunwsletter.com. In order to have the event make it into next week's calendar, please e-mail all events by the Monday before publication.

NIGHTLIFE

CLUBS

9:30 Club, 815 V St., NW, Washington, (202) 393-0930
Baja Beach Club, 55 Market Pl., (410) 727-0468
Bohagers, 701 S. Eden St., (410) 563-7220
Black Cat, 1811 14th St. NW, Washington, D.C. (202) 667-7960
Brass Monkey, 1601 Eastern Ave., (410) 522-0784
Buddies Pub and Jazz Club, 313 N. Charles St., (410) 332-4200
Cat's Eye Pub, 1730 Thames St., (410) 276-9085
Club 2314, 2314 Boston St., (410) 276-9556
DeGroen's Grill, 104 Albemarle St., (410) 837-5000
Fletcher's, 701 S. Bond St., (410) 558-1889
Hal Daddy's, 4119 E. Lombard St., (410) 342-3239
Harry's, 1200 N. Charles St., (410) 685-2828
Hammerjacks, 316 Guilford Ave., (410) 234-0044
Horse You Came In On, 1626 Thames St., (410) 327-8111
Latin Palace, 509 S. Broadway, (410) 522-6700
Lava Lounge, Pier Four, (410) 539-7888
Ottobar, 2549 N. Howard St., (410) 662-0069
Recher Theatre, 512 York Rd., Towson, (410) 337-7178
Redwood Trust, 200 E. Redwood St., (410) 669-9500
Sonar, 407 E. Saratoga St., (410) 327-8333
The Talking Head, 203 E. Davis St., (410) 962-5588
The Vault, 401 W. Baltimore St., (410) 244-6000
Waterfront Hotel, 1710 Thames St., (410) 327-4886
Wyatt's, 1614 Eastern Ave., (410) 732-8656

COMEDY

Comedy Factory, 36 Light St., (410) 752-4189
The Improv, 6 Market Pl. at Power Plant Live, (410) 727-8500
Tracy's Comedy Shop, 9306 Harford Rd., (410) 665-8600

COFFEE

Borders Bookstore and Music, 415 York Rd., (410) 296-0791
Cafe Tattoo, 4825 Belair Rd., (410) 325-7427
Carma's Cafe, 3120 St. Paul St., (410) 243-5200
Donna's, 3101 St. Paul St., (410) 889-3410
Fell's Point Cafe, 723 S. Broadway, (410) 327-8800
Funk's Democratic Coffee Spot, 1818 Eastern Ave., (410) 276-3865
HopStop, Levering Hall, JHU, (410) 516-6219
Images Cafe, 3120 St. Paul St., (410) 235-3054
Margaret's Cafe, 909 Fell St., (410) 276-5606
One World Cafe, 100 W. University Parkway, (410) 235-5777
Red Emma's, 800 St. Paul St.
Sweet Retreat, 3215 N. Charles St.
XandO, 3003 N. Charles St., (410) 889-7076
Ze Mean Bean Cafe, 1739 Fleet St., (410) 675-5999

MOVIE THEATRES

AMC Towson Commons 8, 435 York Rd., (410) 825-5233
Charles Theatre, 1711 N. Charles St., (410) 727-FILM
Rotunda Cinematheque, 711 W. 40th St., (410) 235-4800
Senator Theatre, 5904 York Rd., (410) 435-8338

Los Angeles Times

"SENSATIONAL! A MARVELOUS FILM!"

Kenneth Turan

The Washington Times

"★★★★★!"

JEFF DANIELS AND LAURA LINNEY SHINE!

Scott Galupo

The New York Times

"SHARPLY COMICAL... SUPERBLY WRITTEN AND ACTED!"

A.O. Scott

LAURA LINNEY JEFF DANIELS JESSE EISENBERG OWEN KLINE

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STARTS FRIDAY, THE CHARLES DECEMBER 2ND!

1711 N. Charles St. 410 727-FILM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B10
weather permitting. Call (410) 516-6525 for weather updates and observing conditions before you hike up to Bloomberg.

10p.m. **Coffee Grounds** takes place every Friday night in the Mattin Center Silk Road Cafe. Come out for the free Krispy Kreme doughnuts and coffee, and stay for the fun evening activity.

SATURDAY, DEC. 3

The JHU Neuroscience Honors Society (Nu Rho Psi) will host a MENSA IQ testing from 1 to 4 p.m. at Remsen 101. I.D. is required as well as a fee of \$35 which will benefit the society. Registration may be done in advance at <http://www.jhu.edu/~hsfn/mensa.htm> or in person the day of.

SUNDAY DEC. 4

2p.m. The **Mayor's Annual Christmas Parade** will take place in Hampden. This two and a half mile long parade will include the Baltimore Ravens Dance Team, a train of Harley Davidson Motorcycles and plenty of gaudy Christmas floats of red, white and green. For more information visit the Web site at <http://www.mayorschristmasparade.com>.

MONDAY, DEC. 5

7 p.m. There is an **Interfrater-**

AUTUMN RHYTHM

PHOTOS BY MIKE SCHUMP

